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YOUR WINDOW ON THE WORLD

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King: Jordan anxious for progress in all tracks

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein has said that Jordan, although it is preoccupied with its track of negotiations with Israel, remains anxious to see progress on the Syrian and Lebanese peace talks with the Jewish state.

The King also expressed hope that Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat will visit the autonomous territories of Jericho and Gaza Strip "as soon as possible."

"I hope that he does that." the King said in an interview with Cable News Network (CNN) broadeast Friday

The King, who on Thursday concluded a visit to the U.S. after talks with Presi-

dent Bill Clinton and other administration officials, said he believed that Mr. Clinton was very interested in seeking progress in the Israeli-Jordanian track and also in seeking a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East.

"As far as we are concerned we are just about to embark on the real work," the King said of the upcoming Israeli-Jordanian negotiations on borders and water rights. "That requires the best of us on both sides to resolve all the problems."

The negotiations are "not tied to anything that happens elsewhere," said the King in reference to the other tracks in the peace talks. "But we are very anxious to see all move and are interested to see a comprehensive peace.

"So now, we are focusing on our problems and we are going to address these problems with all the attention they require. I do not know how long it will take the Syrians to overtake us before we complete our task, hut, nonetheless, we are optimis-

tic and hopeful." "I hope that we will come together at a point in the future," the King said.

The King said a meeting with Israeli Prime Minister

Yitzhak Rabin was not a 'taboo subject." but that any such encounter depends on the progress in the negotiations. "I think that a public meeting is very feasible," he said, "and it will not take long before it happens. But we want to see the development of negotiations."

mic political groups in the country to the peace process, the King said: "I think peace is (inevitably coming). The process is irreversible and regardless of how we view matters in Jordan from different perspectives I think there is a great deal of realism here."

Asekd whether be expected a vast majority of Jordanians to support the peace process, the King said:
It all depends on how it works on many points. Obviously it is not peace at any price. It is the kind of peace that future generations can live with, cherish and

protect,' The King said the secondary and tertiary Arab trade

In reply to a question on of the past" but that Jordan opposition expressed by Isla- was suffering an Israeli was suffering an Israeli boycott. It was a reference to Israeli restrictions on Jordanian exports to the Palestimians in the occupied territor-

> "They are protecting their industries against our ... an agreement has to be negotiated and resolved," the King

In reply to a question, the King declined direct comment on how he viewed the ability of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Arafat to rule democratically and with respect for

buman rights.
"It is something I cannot comment. I hope he is upto it. I have encouraged the Palestinians to stick together,

through unity, and I am sure that there are many challenges in the future, mainly Washington. among them the oeed of the The American role in the Palestinian people for demo-cracy, pluralism, respect for human rights and need for

the leader, but at the same time for institutions to come up to enhance the credibility that is required ... and for him to go back as soon as possible "I really hope that he will

Arafat to be the symbol and

live up to the expectations of the Palestinian people, and be has our full support and full backing," the King said. In another interview with Radio Monte Carlo, King Hussein voiced hope that serious Jordanian-Israeli nego-

tiations could be launched

next month to address all

items on the Jordanian-Israeli agenda approved in

Middle East peace process, King Hussein said, is that of a sponsor of the peace process and an important one and had led the Arab-Israeli talks to an advanced stage.
On his talks with U.S.

President Clinton and senior U.S. officials, King Hussein said he felt that senior U.S. officials had shown great understanding of Jordan's present and future needs. particularly in the economic

The King said he discussed with President Clinton bilateral relations, the peace process and the U.S. role in

(Continued on page 12)



2----True Little North tightens pressure on Aden George Michae

Combined agency dispatches

FOURTEEN civilians were killed and 42 people wounded Friday as northern Yemeni troops bombarded Aden for a ninth day without letup, hospital officials said.

Southern anthorities added that 376 civilians had been killed and 861 wounded in the city and governorate of Aden since June 11.

Katyusha rockets slammed into the districts of Khrmaksar close to Aden airport, Maala near the port and into a market at Sheikh Osman in the northern suburbs.

A total of 14 people were killed and 42 wounded, officials at the Al Jumhuriya Hospital said.

Families arrived at the hospital to collect for burial the bodies of those killed Thursday and Friday, and vans carrying wooden coffins left every hour for the city's mos-

In fierce fightiog on the northwest front at Bir Ahmad, 15 kilometeres from Aden, four soldiers were wounded, hospital officials

Northern troops, who have kept up rocket and artillery fire on the southern stronghold since June 16, advanced overnight into the town of Bir Ahmad after seizing the entraoce oo

Thursday. Fighting had died down earlier Friday but southern troops were massing armoured cars to launch a coonter-offensive against

their oorthern rivals loyal to

Presideot Ali Abdullah Saleh. At least 123 civilians have now been killed and about 410 wounded since the north unleashed its assault on the city oo June 16; according to a toll by hospital officials.

Thirty people, mostly civi-lians, were killed and close to 150 wounded on Thursday as rocket and artillery fire fiercest day of shelling so far.

In Aden residents still have to queue up at 72 wells for water, even though southern. authorities have managed to reconnect supplies from the main pumping station at Bir Nasser, close to the northern front, hit by northern fire several days ago.

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) officials said water supplies were "vulnerable" in con-

Both the ICRC and a spokesman for Medecins Sans Frontieres said there were no sigos of any epidemics breaking out in the

King, Queen in London after successful U.S. visit

Washington pledges debt relief

Combined agency dispatches

THEIR MAJESTIES King Hussein and Queen Noor have arrived in London after concluding a highly successful visit to the United States where the King held talks with President Bill Clinton on Middle East issnes and Jordanian-American rela-

The King and Queen were accompanied to London by Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Beo Shaker and the King's military secretary, His Royal Highness Prince Talal Ben Mohammad.

Summing up the King's talks with the U.S. administration, Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali said in a statement to Petra that the talks helped improve ties and would lead to a concrete development in bilateral relations in all fields.

The King's visit, Dr. Ma-jali said, laid the foundation for a "new and strong relationship with the United States, especially with regard to the Middle East peace Drocess."

"King Hussein's talks have placed matters in their proper perspective with regard to Jordan's economy and its vision of peace," Dr. Majali

Dr. Majali left Washington for Los Angeles to deliver a lecture on the developments

sein's visit to the United States.

Information Mioister Jawad Al Anani said the United States had told Jordan it will consider cancelling debts of \$951 million and help ease the country's repayments to the Paris Club of creditor nations.

.Dr. Anani, quoted by the Jordan news agency, Petra, said the United States "gave Jordan a firm pledge it would consider cancelling Jordan's debts.

Dr. Anani accompanied King Hussein on the visit to Washington.

The United States also pledged to help Jordan obtain a reduction in its debts to the creditor nations of the Paris Club," Dr. Anani said. The Paris Club is due to meet in Paris Monday and

Tuesday to consider rescheduling Jordan's debts. Jordan's external debt is put at \$6.6 billion.

Dr. Anam said a reduction in Jordan's debts was the main issue discussed at the first meeting of the Joint U.S.-Jordanian commission in Washington Wednesday. U.S. officials said Thurs-

day that the United States was prepared to forgive Jordan's debt if Amman helps advance the peace process with Israel.

President Clinton told reporters before meeting King Hussein on Wednesday that particularly between Israel and Syria, remained "a very important priority" for his administration.

The State Department said the United States will support efforts to reschedule Jordan's public debt when the Paris Club meets next.

On the question of debt relief, Mr. McCurry said: We will be as supportive as possible when the Paris Club takes up rescheduling Jordan's public debt in the near

Asked if future U.S. economic and military assistance to Jordan depends on a peace agreement with Israel, the spokesman replied: "I don't want to speculate about conditions. I think there are good reasons to promote this type of economic renewal, but it certainly is in the context of what we see as a hopeful environment in the Israeli-Jordanian discus-

U.S. officials said Thursday the United States is prepared to forgive Jordan's \$700 million military debt if the kingdom helps advance the peace process with Israel.

The officials, who declined to be identified, spoke a day after the U.S. administration said President Clinton was ready to host peace talks here

Israelis kill Nablus boy

NABLUS, Occupied West Bank (AP) — Israeli troops quelling a demonstration demanding prisoner releases in this still-occupied city shot and killed a youth Friday, Palestinian reports said.

Clasbes with troops erupted around 9 a.m. when scores of youths took to the streets, chanting to demand the release of all Palestinian prisoners held in Israeli jails. The town was sint by a commercial strike and the youths ignited tyres at many intersections.

Azzam Manasrah, 18, of Beit Fureik village outside Nablus, was shot in the chest during the downtown clashes. He died soon after arrival at Anglican Hospital, Palesti-

The army spokesman's office said it was checking the

in Hebron between youths

prisoners under certain conditions, cootained in the agreement for Palestinian self-rule signed May 4, is proving an explosive issue in the parts of the West Bank still under occupation.

Israel sees it covering those given life sentences for killing uspected collaborators.

Clashes were also reported throwing stones and the The agreement to release

The agreement stipulates that prisoners turned over to the Palestinian National Authority to finish their sentences in the autocomous areas of Gaza or Jericho. The Palestinians said that should only cover rapists, drug deal-

While it is not considered a

problem for the prisoners from Gaza, about 280 from the West Bank were sent to Jericho and want to return home. Israel has also said it will not release prisoners with Israeli blood on their hands or those from faction. opposed to the peace pro-

Palestinians want all prisoners released, regardless of faction. PLO leader Yasser Arafat announced Thursday he would not come to autonomy areas until all prisoners were released.

Meanwhile, Israeli and (Continued on page 12)

PLO: Israel delaying Arafat

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat's visit to the self-rule area of Jericho is being delayed by Israeli violations of an interim peace deal, PLO officials said on Priday.

"It is very difficult for Abu" Ammar (Arafat) to come as long as Israel continues to violate the agreement," PLO chief negotiator Nabil Shaath told Reuters.

A PLO official who refused to be named said he did not expect Mr. Arafat to make the long-awaited trip to Jericho before the first week

of July. And Faisal Al Husseini, the leading local PLO official Israel Radio: "Yasser Arafat cannot come under existing conditions."

Dr. Shaath said Israel was 'politically motivated" in throwing up obstacles to the visit. He said he would meet Israeli officials on Monday to try and resolve the problems. Israeli Prime Minister Yit-

zhak Rahin's spokesman Oded Ben-Ami did not discuss specifics but told Reuters: "Israel has oo motives because it was not violating

Dr. Shaath said the political problems were in addition to snags in obtaining funds from ioternational donors that also delayed Mr. Arafat's return. He said release of Palestinian prisoners and access to Jerusalem were also

Among things provided in the peace deal but not done were the stationing of 400: international observers in Gaza and Jericho, the provision of a "safe passage" through Israel connecting Gaza and Jericho, free movement of PLO officials and stationing of Palestinian police at border crossings, he

Another PLO official said Mr. Arafat had told Israel he would not come to Jericho before the Israeli army reduced its presence in the densely-populated areas in the rest of the West Bank which he said was also called for in the interim peace deal.

Dr. Shaath said in particular Israel's barring him earlier (Continued on page 12)

between King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitcall, scoffs at Rabin in the Middle East region and the outcome of King Husin the West Bank, put Mr. peace in the Middle East. zhak Rabin. Arafat's position bluntly to problems. and if there is a response on DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Barbed wires and the changed lines in sand

This is the first in a serie sof reports containing the writer's impressions during a familiarisation trip through southern and northern Jordan organised by the Ministry of Information and the Armed Forces in close proximity to the occupied Jordanian lands that are expected to be negotiated in talks with Israel next month.

By P.V. Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The glint across the desert sun that came from the binoculars of an Israeli soldier and the harbed wire feoce that stretched as far as the eve could see came as a chilling reminder that we were on a "ceasefire lioe" ooder watchful Israeli eyes.

"That's Jordanian land," said a Jordanian army officer, pointing to the vastness across the fence as we, a groop of representatives from the local media. gathered around him. "In some places they have come in as much as eight kilometres into Jordanian territory."

Jordanian-Israeli ceasefire

Those were the key words that rang oot through a 10-bonr trek through the banks of the Dead Sea and down the Ghor Safi-Agaba Road Those maps clearly show with forays into the Wadi the Jordanian boundaries before the state of Israel Araba desert along the

line that has moved frequently into the Kingdom's land since 1948.

The trip, the first of its kind, came as a familiarisation trip to the local media as Jordan prepares for the start of key negotiations with Israel next month on border demarcation and water rights. "The Jordanians should

know what we are going to discuss and the scope of the issues involved," and hence the trip organised by the Ministry of Information and the Armed Forces, explained Munther Haddadin, one of Jordan's key negotiators with Israel.

There cannot be any dispute over where Jordaman land begins and ends since the terms of reference for the negotiations are the 1928 maps of the British mandate of Palestine," added Brigadier General Mansour Ben Rashid.

was carved out of Palesti-

nian land in 1948. The only problem had been that israel never respected those lines in 1948, grab-bing Jordanian land then and in the years since then. In the bilateral talks that

were launched with the peace process in Madrid in September 1991, Israel had steadfastly avoided pointed Jordanian efforts to start talks on the border and water issues. "It is indeed an achieve-

Israel to agree to demarcate the border and discuss water rights," said Dr. Haddadin, the Kingdom's top water expert. It is an acknowledgement that the present "borders" are not the right bor-

ders and the issue could be

ment for Jordan to get

discossed," added Dr. Haddadin. Dr. Haddadin, one of the Jordanian delegates who atteoded the Jordanian-Israeb meeting under the auspices of the U.S. in Washiogtoo early this month that produced the Israeli agreement, has no

in the negotiations. No East Bank territory was seized in the 1967 war,

doubts that Jordan would

be able to secure its rights

and hence the operating paragraphs of United Na-tions Security Council Re-solution 242 do not apply to the occupied East Bank land. However, Israel has agreed to accept the preamble of the resolution as acceptable.

But again, Israel has resisted describing the land as Jordanian. A compromise was "negotiations on border and territorial matters" in the agreement that was reached in Washington.

In essence, an Israeli agreement to delineate the borders means pulling back the wire fence tht splits the Jordan Valley and placing them on the delineation lines as given in the 1928 British mandate maps. As the army officer noted, the Israeli encroachment into Jordanian land is at places up to eight kilometres and at others an average of two to three kilometres.

According to Jordanian maps, drawn up on the basis of the borders set by the British mandate of Palestine, Israel now occupies 380 square kilometres of Jordanian land in the south, beginning at the

(Continued on page ..2)



An Israeli patrol jeep parked near a water well in occupied Jordanian land in Wadi Araba (photo by Yousef Al 'Alian)

Syria rejects Israeli

Syria on Friday rejected a new Israeli peace proposal linking any withdrawal from the Golan Heights to sealing security arrangements and a peace treaty between the two Government-controlled newspapers also said that Israeli Prime Minister Yit-

zhak Rabin's warning that

war might break out in the

absecce of a peace settlement

with Syria was designed to pressure Damascus into a compromise. 'Such threats will only push Syria to stick more and more to its rights," said the daily Al Baath, mouthpiece of President Hafez Al Assad's ruling Arab Baath

Socialist Party. "Israeli rulers should realise that threats of aggression will not intimidate Syria or make it give up its drive for a inst and comprehensive

peace," it said. Syria has insisted on Israeli commitment to a total withdrawal from the Golao Heights under a land-forpeace deal. "Whoever wants to say be

wants all the Golan Heights

has to prepare for war, three,

five years or seveo years from

now." Mr. Rabin said in a speech Thursday. His foreign minister, Shimon Peres, earlier told Jewish fundraisers that "Israel has proposed several interesting proposals to the Syrians its part, there could be a breaktbrough in negotia-

Mr. Peres said the settlement offered "has three parallel chapters, intertwined, about security, peace and withdrawal."

He also urged Syria to agree to direct high-level talks rather than working only through U.S. mediation, iocladiog seeret cootacts "away from the eye of the media. "Syria refuses Israeli proposals which talk about secur-

ity arrangements before with-

drawal, because if this hap-

pens, Israel will get both

peace and land at the same time," Al Baath said of Mr. Peres' statement. Peace talks with Syria have been stalled since February, when a Jewish settler massacred more than 30 Palestinian worshipers in a mosque

in Hebron. Another government daily, Al Thawra, said Israel was trying to block a new Mideast trip by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher. It did not explain how. But the newspaper said

current deadlock in the peace The Israeli media had reported that Mr. Christopher would return to the Mideast beginning July 10.

such moves were a "flagrant attempt by Israel to clear

itself of responsibility for the

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Report on Israeli abuse of rights challenges U.S.

By Serene Halasa Special to the Jordan Times

∴MMAN — A recent report c. continued grave human rights violations by Israelis against Palestinians will be a test of U.S. human rights policies in this region.

The 316-page report pubiished by Human Rights Watch is based on interviews conducted with 36 Palestisians detained and interrogated since June 1992, including 10 held after signing of the September 1993 Israeliing 10 held after sign Falestinian declaration of principles. It is also based on courtroom testimony of the Ceneral Security Services (CSS) agents and interviews with defence lawyers and four Israeli soldiers.

The report charges that the ervo interrogating agencies in israel, the GSS (also known as Shin Bet or Shabak) and ine Israel Defence Forces (iDF) "systematically and severely abuse Palestinians who are being held for interrozation."

The report states that over 100,000 Palestinians bad even detained since the start c. the intifada in December 1987. The detainces are held in IDF or GSS interrogating incilities throughout the ecoppied territories. Although the methods of the the agencies differ, the end sault is the same — to force the detainees into providing information or to coerce him er her into signing a confes-

Israel, the largest beneficiary of U.S. aid, receives over

\$3 billion annually in economic and security assistance. Of that amount, the report notes, \$1.8 billion goes to one of Israel's interrogating agen-

cies, the army.
U.S. foreign aid policies are closely tied to the buman rights records of the beneficiary country. The Foreign Assistance Act prohibits the U.S. government from providing any military or economic aid to a country that has a bad buman rights record.

"I really think its unrealistic to expect to see any fundamental change in the security relations between Israel and the U.S.," said Holly Burkhalter, the advocacy director for human rights watch in Washington D.C.. in a telephone interview with the Jordan Times.

Ms. Burkhalter said she had no expectations that the findings of the group would make any difference in the American Congress. "There are "some of them don't want to give Israel a blank check, but there is no majority to sustain (any change in poli-

Despite continuous reports by international buman rights organisations concerning Israeli treatment of the Palestinians, little if nothing has been done to address the problem.

For example, Palestinian detainees are denied their basie rights under internationally recognised covenants for buman rights. At the time of their arrest, all 36 exdetainees interviewed by the New York-based Human

Rights Watch stated that the arresting authorities did not inform them of their offence, where they were being taken to, or which security agency was arresting them. Some even feared being deported

to Lebanon. The detainees were subwere denied visits by their relatives, friends and most importantly legal council.

Under international law, detainees have certain rights that would guarantee them a fair trial, among those is the right to be "brought promptly before a judge or other officer anthorised by law to exercise judicial power. According to the report, a large number of detainees were held in incommunicado for at least 1g days before being brought infront of a judge.

"Its not surprising to see buman rights issues being used to serve U.S. political interests," said Asma Khader, executive member of Amnesty International, and the Geneva-based Interna-

tional Commission of Jurists. Ms. Khader said that human rights issues are used by the U.S. government at times to obtain certain political objectives. "If the U.S. government wants to see real peace in the region, then there should be a radical change in its policies towards Israel and the Palestinians,"

Around Aden, north's troops battle air strikes and camels

By Samir F. Ghattas The Associated Press

"UTSIDE ADEN — It was .t the shelling that blocked 112 military road used by atthem forces besieging the numbers stronghold of Aden.

Tras cameis. "Don't agitate them let them pass," the northern discial yelled at his driver. You must beware of enged camels. They could mp on the car."

So everyone waited while 2.2 scruffy ships of the desert the main supply route to the treat line for the northern 26 roes hammering Aden, the

main southern stronghold.

Finally, the camels loped of again across the powdery and with a spindly gait, leaving the soldiers to get on with DC WOE.

It was a curious little interlude in Yemen's seven-weekeld civi war, sparked in one ci the Arab World's most impoverished countries by the bitter rivalry between two of the country's leaders.

Other curiosities which bemuse foreign observers is that many of the soldiers wear traditional brown kilts, which frems particularly unmilitary and unwarlike, and just abcut everyone on both sides takes the afternoon out to · omp on mouthfuls of khat, ध अभेरिप narcotic plant.

It is a national addiction. usually carried out reclinic in the coolness of specia cashion-lined rooms with aubble-bubble water pipes. At the front, the troops and other assorted men with guns who wear no recognizable uniform have to make in with the shade of a T-62 tank of makeshift shelters made from stacks of the empty ammunition creates that

These laid-back chewing session often seem to coincide with halls in the fighting.

That may help explain why exploding shells and air strikes do not seem to bother the troops of Ali Abdullah Saich, the northern leader, ringing Aden, bastion of southern secessionists who broke away May 20 from the 1990 merger with the dominant north.

'Not yet. Not yet. Maybe later," said the smiling operator of a truck-mounted Katyusha rocket launcher. which can fire 40 of the missiles in one screeching broadside, when asked when the retaliation for the southern bombardment would come.

Then he took refuge from the baking sun under wooden ammo boxes. In the coastal flatlands outside Aden the temperature can reach 45 centigrade (113 Fahrenheit)

during the day. At positions and dugouts strung alongside the road, when afternoon came, everyone's checks were bulging as they munched on their khat.

Convoys of northern fighters holding on for dear life in the backs of open pickups bounced across the desert in convoys towards the front. big dust clouds spuming in their wake as they moved fast so southern gunners could not get a bead on them. Mr. Saleh's forces have

been fighting the southern ists on this front about 20 kilometres northeast of Adea for about half the war, which crupted May 4 over a rift between Mr. Saleh and his former vice president, Ali Salem Al Beidh, the

"We're fighting for unity," said Mohammad Hussein Salem, echoing the words of

jected to rigid psychological and physical pressures that lasted for days, weeks and sometimes months. They

Mr. Saleb's leadership in Sanaa, the northern capital. The distant scream of war-

planes bombing from high altitude mixed with the roar of anti-aircraft guns and the crump of exploding shells. Along the front, more than dozen truck-monnted Katyusha rocket launchers

were dug in, pointing towards

Aden to the southwest or to the Gulf of Aden, where southern gunboats harass the coastal mad. Wrecked vehicles litter the roadside, testimony to the accuracy of the southern gunners and fighter-bombers

who hit Mr. Saleh's men con-A six-wheeled ammunition truck which took a direct hit lies off the road, a mangled mass of blackened metal,

with the shredded casings of exploded shells strewn around. A Russian-built armoured

personnel carrier, its front wheel blasted off by a mine, stands tilted to one side. "Stay on the road and off the shoulders or you'll be blown away," a captain warned reporters, pointing to

the soft sand where antipersonnel and anti-vehicle mines are buried in abund-In Zinjibar, Ja'ra and other towns near the front, thousands of civilians have fled. Those who stayed be-

hind are short of electricity Gasoline is reserved only for the military and official vehicles. There also are food shortages because of hoarding and because supply lines

from Aden have been cut. "Many people left because of the air raids and shelling, said Mujahid Afifi, standing in the almost deserted centre of Ja'ra. "I'm staying."

Barbed wire and changed lines

(Continued from page 1)

southern tip of the Dead Sea. Another 820 dunums (iometres), (0.82 square) are in the north.

Jordan's boundaries with the Palestinians — the West Bank — are no concern of Israel, said Gen. Ben Rashid, the Jordanian delegate to the armistice commission which groups Jordan, the United Nations and Israel. Only a few kilometres

halfway down south from the Dead Sea along the wire fence are exceptions to the Israeli infringement into Jordanian territory, said the army officer, pointing to an area in the map where the actual armistice line is respected. perhaps because the area is too thin for encroachment.

The tour began, literally, in the middle of the Dead Sea, which has been separated into units with earthen banks to facilitate the extraction process of the Arab Potash Company.

As the bas laboured along the mudtracks on the banks of the so-called salt pans of the Arab Potash Company, Israeli trueks could be seen at work less than 100 metres to the west. They belonged to the Israeli company extracting potash and other minerals from the Dead Sea (the mandate line runs hypothetically in the middle of the Dead Sea, marked by a large white cement marker placed there by the British

Further down southwest. Israeli hotels and health spas — much larger in size compared to their Jordanian counterparts up northeast - could be seen on the banks of the Dead Sea.

mandate authorities).

Unlike its frenzy to change the demography of the West Bank, Israel has not set up settlements in the occupied East Bank land, Instead, it has encouraged seasonal farming there, given the richness of the land, which lies down the mountains and gets an

ground water. Israelis have dug many wells in the region, army officers said, citing the actual Arabic as well as the Israeli-given names of the

abundant supply of under-

As the media group buddled around a huge military map of the area spread on a Humvee vehicle, an Israeli patrol stopped across the fence and looked on curiously but kep a respectful destance. From that point. Israeli border patrols followed us - handing us over from point to point — on the other side of the fence to a large part of the rest of the tour.

issues facing Jews every-

where, such as assimilation,

and not just Israel-oriented

concerns. He said Israelis

would donate to a new orga-

nisation called the house of

Israel, as would Jews abroad.

Jewish teenager in the di-

aspora should be offered a

voucher to be used for travel

to Israel and back home be-

tween his or her 17th and

18th birthday. He estimated

it would cost \$150 million to

\$200 million a year if 85,000

young people came annually.

Mr. Beilin presented his

proposal at a top-level Israel-

diaspora conference spon-

sored by President Ezer

Weizman. The president said be called the 200 delegates to

the gathering because he saw a crisis brewing between Jews

Diaspora participants

Steven Cohen, a demog-

rapher with the Hebrew Uni-

versity, told the conference

that intermarriage among

American Jews stood at 43

per cent. He predicted that

only one in ten grandchildren

of today's young adult Jews would identify as Jewish.

Letty Cottin Pogrebin said

surveys showed 80 per cent of

American Jews had never vi-

sited Israel and 85 per cent of

American Jewish college stu-

here and abroad.

agreed.

He proposed that every

Beilin comments on Israel on its feet spark uproar

TEL AVIV (AP) — Yossi Beilin, Israel's deputy foreign minister, has shocked the old guard by saying Israel no longer needed knee-jerk political support and was too wealthy for handouts from abroad

On Wednesday, be proposed sweeping reforms - replacing the agency long in charge of immigration, turning Israel bonds into a mutual fund and offering a roundtrip plane ticket to every 17year-old Jew to visit Israel.

In a five-page proposal, Mr. Beilin argued that Jewish groups should be less Israeloriented because the Jewish state was less threatened by the Arab World, more economically independent and had succeeded in bringing a half-million immigrants to Israel in the past five years.

"These changes have made it impossible to continue to base Israel-diaspora relations primarily on charity," he

"Nonsense," snorted Yehiel Leket, head of the Jewish Agency which channels money to immigrants.
"Every Jewish kid will get a gift of a free plane ticket

and help to come to Israel, and (Beilin) is ready to give up the Jewish contributions? think it's very strange," said Mr. Leket, who took over the Jewish Agency this year amid a corruption scandal.

Mr. Beilin, the youthful bad boy of Israeli politics, was immediately and sharply reprimanded by his boss, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

"I view the cooperation between the state of Israel and... the Jewish people around the world as historic-al, religious, vital," Mr.

Rabin told Jewish Agency fundraisers, stressing that Israel still faced a military threat from the Arab World. "(Beilin) simply does not know what he is talking ab-

The agency is widely seen by Israelis as riddled by corruption and politics. But it is also seen as one of the holy cows of Zionism, the body. established in 1929 that set in motion Israel's creation in Palestine in 1948.

Earlier this year, Mr. Beilin infuriated senior diaspora activists by telling them that Israel, listed as 18 On the world standard of living scale, no longer needed contributions from the diaspora. He even suggested that Israelis raise money to contribute to depressed Jew-

ish communities overseas. As if that was not enough, he routinely tells diaspora Jewish audiences to interfere in Israeli politics and make their voices heard on crucial issues like the peace process.

The maverick approach is consistent with Mr. Beilin's most impressive achievement to date: A year ago, he persuaded Mr. Rabin to overturn years of entrenched Israeli policy by recognising the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

That upheaval led to the historie Israel-PLO peace accord, and the introduction of Palestinian autonomy in the Gaza Strip and Jericho. "We deluded ourselves with the PLO until a year ago," Mr. Beilin, 44, told the Associated Press. "Now we sbould stop deluding ourselves about the Jewish

world." Mr. Beilin suggested more comphasis would be placed on

dents said it was difficult to identify in any way with the Jewish state. "There is a paradox of

success," said Alan Dershowitz, a prominent American lawyer and Jewish activist from Boston. "The more things go well for individual Jews in America, the more they become worse for the Jewish community and for

support for Israel.

U.N. fears fresh Afghan refugee flood SAR SHAHI CAMP, Afgha-

nistan (R) - The United Nations, straining to help more than 100,000 refugees from the war-shattered Afghan capital Kabul, said on Thursday it lacks the resources to handle a new influx and fears new fighting. "If there is a battle in Kabui, where will we place more displaced people?" Martin Barber, acting direc-

tor of the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance to Afghanistan (UNOCHA), told visiting reporters.

About 113,000 people, almost all former residents of Kabul, are living in squalid conditions - short of food, water and cooking fuel - in a

tent city at Sar Shahi Camp, 10 kilometres east of the

Eastern city of Jalalabad.
The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has run the crowded camp on a shoestring since tens of thousands of refugees streamed out of Kabul in January to escape the latest bloody battle for supremacy that erupted on January 1 between President Burhanuddin Rabbani and Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar.

The camp is already housing three times more refugees hold, said camp manager Terry Fitzner.

than it was originally designed to "In these temperatures it is

intolerable," Mr. Pitzner said

as the refugees sizzled in 40 degrees Celsius (104 Fahrenheit) heat. The power supply to Jalalabad and the nearby camp bas been cut for 10 days and water is scarce

The camp, which sprawls over about 16 square kilometres of arid gravel and scrubland, can hold no more refugees because of the water shortages, Mr. Pitzner said. U.N. officials said they were anxious about reports of a recent escalation of the

clashes in Kabul and fears of a new and serious upsurge in the fighting in the run-up to the expiry of Mr. Rabbani's term in office on June 28. 'We are hearing that from 10.000 to 100,000 may come out," Mr. Pitzner said.

Arafat meets Yemeni delegation

NEWS IN BRIEF

TUNIS (AFP) — A north Yemeni parliamentary delegation, seeking support for north Yemen's campaign against southern secessionists, met here Thursday with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, official sources said. The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader stressed the need to "continue efforts to reach a just solution that takes into account the interests of the Yemeni people," the Palestinian news agency WAFA reported. The Yemeni delegation, which also met with Tunisian parbamentary leaders and members of legal opposition groups, accused Saudi Arabia of supplying arms to southern forces, according to diplomatie sources.

Shiseido to restart Lebanon sales operations

TOKYO (AFP) — Japan's largest cosmetics producer, Shiseido Co., said Wednesday it will restart sales operations in Lebanon from March next year through local agent CH Sarraf and Co. Sal. Shiseido said it signed an agent sales contract with Jacques Sarraf, the president of CH Sarraf, on Tuesday in Tokyo to restart operations halted by civil war in 1982. CH Sarraf began selling Shiseido products in 1975. The two companies began negotiating the restart of operations as the conflict came to an end in 1989. Sales will begin through 10 sales outlets in the first year, including department stores and exclusive perfumeries, growing to 30 outlets by the third year, Shiseido said. It forecast sales of \$2.1 million over a three year period. Shiseido has a sales network spanning 40 countries.

UAE promotes international defence show

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has launched a drive in Asia, Eastern Europe and other areas to attract exhibitors for its second international defence exhibition due to open early next year. Brigadier Sultan Al Snweidi, who heads the organising committee, has visited Singapore, Malaysia, China, Indonesia, India, Ukraine, Russia, the United States, France, Australia and other states and is planning to make more visits to promote the March 19-23 exhibition. "With nine months to go to the opening of the exhibition, we are already two thirds full," he said in a statement. The show, beld in Abu Dhabi every two years, is confined to ground and naval weapons to avoid interference with an international air show in Dubai, another UAE emirate. Hundreds of companies from morethan 30 countries participated in the 1993 show in Abu Dhai, where the French Giat signed its biggest military deal with the UAE for the supply of 436 Leclerc main battle

Yemeni fasts 5 days to conceal heroin pills

CAIRO (AP) — A Yemeni who swallowed plastic pills containing heroin fasted for five days in an airport transit lounge while waiting for a plane to his country, police said. He was arrested after he fainted from hunger. Mustapha Abdullah, 57, passed out in the Cairo international airport on Tuesday, A doctor who treated him said Mr. Abdullah coughed up a pill four centimetres in diameter after taking medicine. In a Cairo hospital, doctors pumped his stomach and extracted another seven pills, said Dr. Salahedeen Taher, the airport quarantine doctor who administered the? medicine. "He was in an extreme state of exhaustion," apparently due to not having eaten," Mr. Taher said. Hesaid the Yemeni arrived last Thursday and admitted to fasting since then to prevent passing the heroin. Security sources said the man had planned to take a connecting flight to Sanaa soon after arriving in Cairo, but "flightswere cancelled" due to Yemen's civil war.

Inquiry clears police in Cyprus shooting

NICOSIA (R) - A public inquiry has ruled that Cyprus anti-terrorist police who shot dead an engaged couple on Christmas eve after bursting into their flat to resolve a domestie dispute acted responsibly and within the law. Supreme Court President Andreas Loizou rejected suggestions from family members that the officers who launched the televised raid after the man threatened to kill his 22-year-old fiancee were overzealous and guilty of murder. "The police acted in an appropriate manner... they handled the whole incident correctly and in a responsible manner, within the law and in accordance with the constitution," government spokesman Yiannakis Cassoulides said on Wednesday, quoting the conclusions of Mr. Loizou's report. The police riddled the bodies of Lefteris Andronikou, 34, and his fiancee Ersi Constantinon with bullets after bursting into their flat in Chlorakas, a small village in western Cyprus, following a domestic dispute. Andronikou, armed with a hunting rifle, had threatened to kill Constantinou and then commit suicide. The 10-hour rescue attempt was broadcast live on a private

Omani women allowed to stand for council

MUSCAT (R) — Omani women living in the capital Muscat will be allowed to stand for election for the first time to the Shura Council, the Sultanate's consultative body, an Omani official said. The deputy governor of Muscat, Barghash Ben Said Al Said, told reporters women would be allowed to make nominations and stand in this. year's elections which will send new representatives to the council from Muscat. He said the decision "reflected the abilities of the Omani woman and put her on an elevated level of responsibility... playing a more active role in pushing the pace of development." It was not clear from Ben Said's statement whether Omani women in areas other than Muscat would be affected by the decision. Sbura Council members represent the interests of their areas and debate government policies before they are given final approval by Sultan Qaboos.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

FROGRAMME TWO 17:00 Le Monde Sous Marin Dossier De La Semaine News in French World Cup Soccer Match Sandi Arabia vs. Morocco 21:29 Daily World Cup Summary ond Cup Summary ... News to English leasonable Doubts PRAYER TIMES

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Tel: 773111-19

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Dr. Mohammad Al Hills 279775

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| University Hospital 845845 |
| Al-Muscher Hospital 667227/9 |
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| Zarga Nanca (L. Sapital |
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| Al Hikma Modern Hospital (09)990990 |
| TRBID: |

Princess Hava Hospital (03)314111 FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA

INTERNATIONAL

AIRPORT This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia In-ternational Airport Tel. (08)53200 5, where it should always be veri-fied.

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16:09 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)

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neni delegation New hospital to provide **specialised** medicare pavos sajes obeisios to children

By Elia Nasrallah Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - The Royal Medical Services (RMS) will take charge of the specialised children's hospital which will be set up within the grounds of King Husseio Medical Centre probably within two years, according to RMS Director Geoeral Yousef Gousus.

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Dr. Gousus told the Jordan Times Friday that Jordan lacks a specialised childreo's hospital and the oew facility, which will be built by the Jhinese, will be put to service at the national level benefiting children from all govemorates.

The minister of planning Thursday signed memoranda with the Chinese ambassador to Jordan, Wang Chi Je, for the construction of the hospital which is expected to cost \$8 million.

The cost will be part of China's loans to the Kingdom as agreed in August 1990, said a ministry of planning



lor to Jordan (left) looks at the agreement for building the hospital. To his photo)

The 130 to 150-bed hospital is to be set up on a 12,000 square metres plot of land oear the Queen Alia Heart Institution and will be accessible to all sick children, added Dr. Gousus who also signed the agreement on behalf of the RMS.

"We have prepared a de-sign for the hospital and agreed on details with the Chinese officials who said the construction work would start within the coming few months," Dr. Gousus said. "Upon the completion of constructioo, the RMS will take the necessary steps to

secure funds for purchasing medical equipment."

Dr. Gousus said the \$8 million loan was barely enough for the hospital's construction.

"It is true that most hospitals have paediatric wards, but this will be the first specialised hospital for the treat-ment of children in the country" added the RMS chief.

Upon signing the agreement Thursday, the minister of planning voiced Jordan's appreciation for the Chinese help while the Chinese ambassador expressed the hope that this gesture would further bolster bilateral ties.

Health Minister Aref Bataioeh, who signed the accord on behalf of his ministry, said there was urgent need for such a facility to cater to the needs of sick children.

"Although the ministry had barboured the idea for long it refrained from taking any step to carry it out due to the lack of funds," Dr. Bataineh pointed out. He said that this hospital

would be a specialised oational project offering services to various types of cases referred to it by other hospitals and health ceotres in the

Campaign begins today to persuade citizens to economise on water

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - The Ministry of Water and Irrigation today. embarks on a week-long campaign to spread awareness among the public about economising water consumption and to explain the water situation in the Kingdom and future plans.

The campaign, in coopera-tion with the Water Authority and the Jordan Valley Authority, entails programmes on the radio and televisioo and publications io newspapers as well as semi-nars, discussions and lectures at youth clubs and other organisations.

The Ministry of Water and Irrigatioo said the armed forces, the General Union of Voluntary Societies and a number of government departments were also cooper-

ating in the campaign.

The ministry said that special tours and visits to water projects, waste water treatment plants and irrigation networks would be organised for the media personnel.

On the eve of the campaign, Water and Irrigation Minister Saleb Irsheidat said that the growing need for water and the Kingdom's limited and meagre water resources were posing a major challenge for his ministry, especially during the summer season when demand for water, to be used for agricultural and domestic purposes,

Since 1988, the ministry has resorted to rationing water supplies and adopting a water distribution programme in order to ensure that supplies reach various areas of Jordan, said the minister.

peaks.

Acting upon directives from the prime minister, the Ministry of Water and Irrigation aims at attracting more cooperation from all citizens m order to ensure success for the ministry's plans in water affairs, according to Dr.

The minister, who was addressing a press conference, said that due to the meagre water resources and the growing population, per capita water share has dropped from 3,400 metres per annum to 200 cubic metres in 1993.

He said each citizen actually needs an average of 2,000

cubic metres annually.

According to Engineer
Quai Oteishat, head of the
Water Authority, per capita
needs mean each person's requirements of water for domestie, agricultural, in-dustrial and all other pur-

Mr. Qteishat, who is also the mioistry's secretary general, said the ministry has oo intection of raising the prices of water for drinking purposes but plans to conduct a study and an assessment of the water needs for irrigation

He noted that the present charge of six fils per cubic metre was far below the cost of supplying the water including maintenance work and pumping costs.

Referring to the water in the King Talal Dam, Mr. Qteishat said the dam, the largest in Jordan, now holds only 45 million cubic metres out of a capacity of 86 million. But this amount, he pointed out, was sufficient for reasonable distribution for irrigation purposes.

Mr. Qteishat said that the sceond largest Karameb Dam, which is still under construction near the town of Karameh in the Jordan Valley, would make available 55 milliou cubie metres once completed.

Mr. Qteishat disclosed that the government, in cooperation with the Japanese governmeot, was currectly conducting a study on the establishment of a pilot water desalination project in order to meet the growing water needs of the country.

JEA secures financing for Aqaba expansion project

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - The Jordan Electricity Aothority (JEA) has secured \$160 million in foreign loans to finance an expansioo project at the Agaba Thermal Power Station, the JEA said Friday.

Walid Jaoni, deputy director of the JEA, said the breign component of the project was estimated at \$180 The rest of the financing

for the project, estimated to cost around \$300 million, is expected to be in the form of local contribution in infrastructure and logistic support. The expansion of the plant

involves purchasing, installing, testing and operating two 130-megawatt thermal geocrating ooits. The facility already bas two similar units which went operational in

Tenders have been issued for the four phases of the expansioo project: Purchase of steam turbines, boiler and

fuel tanks and the civil works involved. The closing date for the tenders is July 4, and the JEA is expected to announce the awarding of the cootracts before the end of the year "so as to complete tender works and operate these units in the first half of

"Large groups of interna-tional specialised firms which ipurchased the tenders have shown a great interest in parsaid a JEA statement, adding that such interest is expected produce "good financial

and technical offers." It meant that the JEA was keeping the options for contractors also to submit fioaneing proposals along with technical offers related to the equipment and installation of the project.

Japanese and European firms as well as an Indian company had topped the list of potential cootractors wheo the project was first floated in the late 80s before it was

suspended. At that time the estimated cost was around \$250 million.

The sospeosioo was prompted by the discovery of commercial gas and the initiation of gas-run generators at Al Risheb in the late 1980s. However, increased demaods and projections prompted the authority to revive the project.

The external financing for the revived expansion project came from:

- The Arab Fund for Ecooomie and Social Development, which signed a \$115 million loan agreement with the Ministry of Planning last

The JEA will use \$85 million from this loan to partly finance the Aqaba project. The rest of the loan will be used partly to finance the main 400 volts/130 kilovolts substation and the cost of linking the powergrids of Jordan and Egypt within the

Aqaba area. The Islamic Develop\$25 million to the project in addition to an available overdraft of \$10 million if needed. "Islamic Development Bank representatives have com-

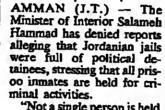
pleted their work at the Ministry of Planning and the JEA to participating in financing part" of the Aqaba project, the JEA said. It did not say when the loan accord would be signed. - The Japanese govern-

ment, which has announced its willingness to provide a loan of \$45 million to the ava project. Details of the Japanese part of the financing, which was announced during the May visit of Fore-ign Minister Koji Kakizawa, have not been finalised.

But the Tokyo government has already made the alloca-tion in the 1994 hudget and "is expected to allocate other amounts in the 1995 budget," the JEA statement said.

"Accordingly, the required finance for the total cost of the project is completely covered," the statement added.

Hammad: No political detainees in Jordan



"Not a single person is held in Jordan for pobtical reasons and there is oo truth in the claims that prisoos are crowded with political detainees," he told a meeting in his office Thurs-

According to Mr. Hammad, a persoo is jailed only opoo orders from the public prosecutor and for a good reason.

"The general security situation in Jordan is alright and poblic freedoms are guaranteed in the climate of democracy," added Mr. Hammad.

Referring to the groups beld in January and February of this year for their suspected involvement in explosions at movie theatres in Amman and Zarqa, the minister said that they wen held within the normal jurisprudence of the Jordanian laws which will also determine the kind of court that would try them.

"Relatives of these groups, as well as representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), have already visited the detainees involved in the blasts and saw for themselves that they have not been exposed to any kind of torture," said the minister.

Relatives of the detainees, he added, can visit them on Fridays for three hours.

The mioister said that these groups, having 25 people, will be tried before the courts in the coming month. According to the minister, the 25 include two members of the Muslim Brotherhood in Jordan.

The minister also denied that the government was holding passports of Jorda-nian citizens, saying that exception was made by those belonging to groups that had committed crimes.

"The security services do not have a single passport on the grounds of a person's political affiliation," stressed Mr. Hammad.

Referring to political parties, the minister disclosed that some of them have been in contact with other parties abroad, in violation of the political parties law, stressing that the ministry was taking the appropriate measures to prevent that from happening.

Referring to travel across the bridges, to and from the West Bank, Mr. Hammad said that Jordan announced measures last month to further facilitate travel, noting that in May, 19. 994 people crossed into Jordan from the occupied West Bank and 26,008 returned in the same month.

He said that since the beginning of June, 16,761 people came from the West Bank and 28,733 returned.

The minister noted that despite the self-rule agreement for the Jericho and Gaza areas, the Israelis have introduced no change to their normal measures for travel and the Palestinians continue to face long hours of delay at the crossing points on the other side.

Before the press conference, Mr. Hammad beld a meeting with governors to review the administrative divisions in the Kingdom in the



Interior Minister Salameh Hammad presiding over a meeting of administrative governors

wake of a government deci-sion to create four new gov-ernorates in Aqaba, Madaba, Ajloun and Jerash.

Ministry of Interior's mea-.

illoun and Jerash.
The minister outlined the

sures, starting August 1, re-garding the implementation all issues in their respective of changes to cate to the areas, with the help of suffi-needs of the new situation. cient, qualified cadres, in line The Interior Ministry, said Mr. Hammad, is determined

with the government's decentralisation policies.

THE JORDANIAN-AMERICAN COMMISSION FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE (FULBRIGHT)

The newly-established binational Fulbright Commission in Jordan invites outstanding applications from Jordanian citizens for the following positions with the minimum requirements described

PROGRAM OFFICER

Advanced degree (preferred specialisations: Education. Public Admin, Business Admin, Journalism or Marketing).

 U.S.-educated Bi-lingual (Arabic-English)

- Excellent oral and written communication skills.

- Familiarity with the Jordanian and U.S. educational systems. - Familiarity with computers and word processing programs (e.g Wordperfect) and some experience in desktop publishing.

Experience managing funds for programs/projects

A self-starter, interpersonal skills and creativity is a plus.

ACCOUNTANT

 University graduate/B.A. (preferred fields of study: Accounting. Banking and Finance, or Financial Management).

- Previous experience preparing and managing budgets

- Proven proficiency in English. - Computer skills and excellent familiarity with financial

software programs (e.g. Lotus and Excel) with ability to develop computer applications. Previous experience with non-profit organisations

- Highest integrity

- Initiative, efficiency and interpersonal skills expected.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/RECEPTIONIST

- Bi-lingual

- Strong clerical and organisational skills a must. -Proficient in use of computers and word processing soft-

ware programs (both English & Arabic)

- 7 years corporate experience in a similar position

Knowledge of contracting procedures.

Public relations aptitude.

Three references are requested. Candidates fulfilling the above requirements should submit their CV with a cover letter NO LATER THAN 30 JUNE 1994 to the:

Executive Director Fulbright Commission C/O American Embassy (USIS) P.O.Box 354

Amman 11118, Jordan

Executive Director Fulbright Commission American Embassy (USIS) Abdoun - Amman, Jordan

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly hulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

THIRD YOUTH THEATRE FESTIVAL

☆ Drama in Arabic entitled "Pages of Blood" at the Royal

EXHIBITIONS

Cultural Centre at 7:30 p.m.

☆ Painting exhibition by Iraqi painters "The Pioneetrs Group" at Ain Art Gallery — Wadi Sagra (Tcl. 644451)

A Painting exhibition by Naila Deeb at the Goethe-Institut. Art exhibition entitled "The Form and Colour in the Arab Art Exhibition" by 16 artists from Jordan and Iraq

and the Spanish Cultural Centre. Exhibition of paintings by Sophia Ziadeh at the Royal Cultural Centre.

* Exhibition of works by several Arab artists at the Phoenix Gallery for Art and Culture (Tel, 695291). Exhibition by artist Mohammad Fradi at the Orfali Art Gallery in Umm Utheina (Tel. 826932).

A Child Needs Expo at the International Motor Exhibition. Airport Highway (Tel. 653836).

★ Exhibition by plastic artist Shawkat Al Alousi at the Alia Art Gallery (Tel. 672872).

& Exhibition on the development of "Le Louvre" at the French Cultural Centre. A Painting exhibition by artist George Babjouri at Al Balqa

Art Gallery (Tel. 729677). A Painting exhibition by Jordanian artist Abdul Ra'uf Sham'oun at Darat Al Funum of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh. Also showing

"permanent" exhibition of 56 Arab contemporary artists (Tel. 643251/2). > Photography exhibit entitled "Faces of Jordan" at the

American Center. * Exhibition by Iraqi artists at Ab'aad Art Galery in

NOVEL RECITAL

Mecca Street.

Novel recital by novelist Raja' Abu Ghazaleh at the Phoenix Gallery for Art and Culture at 7:30 p.m. (Tel.

Iraqi art doyens in **Amman for 'last** exhibition together'

By Ian Atalla

Special to the Jordan Times AMMAN -- "The Pioneers" Group", whose members come from Iraq's oldest generations of contemporary artists, opened their art exhibition Wednesday at the Ain Art Gallery in Amman in what will probably be their last exhibition together, according to gallery owner Dr. Shamil Kubba.

The group's 19 members, who first began jointly exhibiting their work in Baghdad in 1950, "are among the most prominent artists of Iraq's older generations, and they have all had a part in forming the contemporary art schools there," Dr. Kubba told the Jordan Times.

Before coming to Amman, the Pioneers' current exhibition had been on display at the Saddam Hussein Centre for the Arts in Baghdad for the first half of this month. Although the Baghdad ex-hibit had included the work of all group members, Dr. Kubba said, due to difficulties in obtaining permits from the Iraqi government to let their works travel outside the country and the rigours of Jordanian customs procedures and duties, only around 10 of the Pioneers were finally able to bring their work to Amman.

However, there still remains much to interest art lovers. Perhaps the most intriguing paintings are those of Hassan Abed Alwan, which appear to be a playfull takeoff in the atmosphere of the tales of A Thousand and One Nights.

In Mr. Alwan's surreal sce-

narios, bedouin cavaliers, sheikhs, and women in nightgowns fly magically over a landscape of moonlit minarets and balconies, waving scimitars and comically balancing on their heads such strange objects as wine jugs, fish, cats, soughirds and

A large portion of the works on display are artist and calligrapher Mohammad Ali Sbakir's paintings of

female subjects. Mr. Shakir's women peasaots, streetwomeo, housewives and young girls, fleshily painted with generons curves, in various stages of dressing (undressing), convey a sense of feminine fertility and ripeness which strikes the viewer.

their poses a sense of awareoess and control of their femininity which is rare in Arab paintings.
Also prominently displayed are the works of Suzanne Al Shaykhali, an expatriate French artist living in Iraq,

whose work on display fo-

cuses on Middle Eastern

The women also convey in

themes and motifs. Although her watercolours of traditional landscapes and cityscapes are pretty enough, the most interesting of her paintings are three which focus on the same theme. In each of them, a solitary and forlorn fellaha stands in the foreground against a haze of vaguely painted, huddled female figures in the hack-

ground. The exhibition is scheduled to continue at the Ain Art Gallery for approximately one month.

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Stop reckless drivers!

SUMMER HAS barely begun and the number of road accidents is already going up. The culprits are mainly young drivers allowed by their parents to sit behind the steering wheel before they are ready. It takes more than a driving licence to be able to drive a vehicle safely in our congested streets. It needs prudence and sane judgement, something that a driver's test may not show. Normally all those who seek driving permits put on their best behaviour when they undergo the necessary tests but shed off these attributes the moment they are alone in their own cars.

As a result, many people are losing their lives, especially in the summer holidays when young students take on the thoroughfares of the country as if with a vengeance. The fact that many of those young people's parents are influential makes it very difficult for the authorities to take affirmative action against violators or would-be violators of traffic rules. Many people drive through red traffic lights and stop signs with impunity day on and day out. Traffic policemen are normally nowhere in sight to stop these grave traffic contraventions.

This suggests that much more needs to be done to stop the fatal accidents on our roads. It is not enough to recall the rise of traffic accidents once a year when the world commemorates safe driving. We need an effective and endless campaign to root out the growing tious punishment of all those who are found guilty irrespective of their social, political or economic status. The mass media can also contribute to eliminating traffic accidents by highlighting them on daily basis until the message gets across to all those who could be directly or indirectly responsible for them.

In order would be the granting of a temporary driving licence on a probationary basis. If the record of any given driver is so alarming the first year or so, his or her permit must be withdrawn or even cancelled. Whatever it is, we need to get more serious in combatting reckless driving habits that gamble with the lives of innocent people. Parental control and guidance are also called for.

In these times when freedom has become associated with slackening parental control over their children, parents must be made legally responsible for the crimes that their children commit when they drive the family car. As long as fathers and mothers of young drivers are absolved of civil and criminal responsibility for the actions of their offspring, they would continue to take lightly their duty to control the behaviours of their sons and daughters.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL DUSTOUR daily Sunday commented on U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's scheduled tour of the Middle East region by expressing helief that it constitutes a fresh indication that the United States is keen on pursuing the peace process. But, shuttling between Arab capitals to convey the views of leaders is not enough to achieve the aspired peace, especially on the Syrian-Israeli track, which has not yet seen by progress, the paper said. To achieve peace and ensure the return of the Golan Heights to Syrian sovereignty, said the paper, requires serious efforts on the part of the United States administration which should help end Israel's intransigence and persuade its leaders to withdraw Israeli forces from the occupied plateau. Withou real pressure on the Israelis, said the paper, there can be no chance for Mr. Christopher to achieve any result from his fresh mission, added the daily.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour discussed the "lottery" announced by the United States embassy in Amman inviting people to submit applications for immigrant visas, and said this could be a trap. Mohammad Daoud said that the lottery programme could be designed to attract certain types of youth or skilled people to become incorporated in the American nation, benefiting the United States and depriving their original countries of their skill. The writer said that the Americans are trying to exploit the uneasy situation in many of the Third World countries, luring them to American, with keen interest in attracting talented youths from the Arab World whose own countries have spent a fortune on their training. With the departure of skilled and talented youth from the Third World countries, the developing world would be deprived of the means for development and progress, added the daily. The writer cautioned Jordanians to abort "Washington's plots" and urged the Arab regimes to offer talented and skilled people all facilities for creative work necessary for the Arah World's progress and development.

Jordanian Perspective

By Dr. Musa Keilani

A new era in Jordan-U.S. relations

BY ALL counts, the summit between His Majesty King Hussein and U.S. President Bill Clinton on Wednesday marked a new era in relations between Jordan and the United States. It was indeed the third such summit since Mr. Clinton took office, but the atmosphere that prevailed during the two earlier encounters was not exactly very clear since the priorities of the sides were far apart. Now, it seems, the Clinton administration has sent a strong signal that it has come to accept the reality of the consistency of the Jordanian position and the principled position of the Kingdom over the decades. That is indeed the most important step forward in a direction that would bring back and intensify warmth and cordiality in Amman-Washington

Jordan was never a spoiler in the quest for peace in the Middle East. If anything, one of the main catalysts in the peace process that was launched in Madrid in 1991 was king Hussein's persistent calls for a negotiated just,

comprehensive and just settlement to the root conflict plagning the lives of the people of the region.

President Clinton's offer to play a personal role to efforts to advance Jordanian-Israeli negotiations was of course a clear understanding of Jordan's position and commitment to reaching a negotiated settlement based in foirness and to reaching a negotiated settlement based in fairness and

The Kingdom's refocused turn in 1989 towards democra-y—a basic element of American approach— was not an accident either. It reflected our leadership's commitment to expanding people's participation in decision-making as soon as the political constraints imposed by external factors beyond the control of Jordan were eased.

The King's meeting with U.S. congressmen on Wednes-day produced a reaffirmation of the American lawmakers' support for the democratisation under way in Jordan. Hopefully, they also appreciate that Jordan is pedalling a sole boat in the turbulent waters of the Middle East and any overt move could jeopardise its course.

Definitely, any just settlement in the region has to have as one of its pillars an improvement in the lives of people. The man in the street should feel the fruits of peace reflecting on his life in terms of better living conditions and tension-free political participation if peace has to be consolidated. That objective is not possible against the present backdrop of the yawning economic disparities among the different countries.

On our part in Jordan, the government, the Armed Forces and the officialdom as well as the private sector are gearing up to interact with the requirements of peace. Optimism is high among Jordanians that they are on the threshold of an era that would herald economic prosperity and development for all.

Obviously the subject was also one of the key themes in the King's talks with President Clinton and other American officials, including Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Commerce Secretary Ron Brown and Defence Secretary William Perry as well as U.S. lawmakers.

It is naive to expect Jordan to play a full and effective part in rebuilding a stable Middle East when it is burdened with one of the highest per capita foreign debts in the world. The need to service those debts from the limited financial resources of Jordan has been a key constraint in

The least that we would expect from the U.S. to help the Kingdom in this context is a write-off of Jordan's debts, estimated at JD 950 million. Compared with the (acknow ledged) annual U.S. aid of nearly \$6 billion to Israel (and Egypt) for the ostensible purpose of maintaining peace in the region, the Jordanian debts should not be a problem for Washington. But the peril that we face at this point in time is perhaps an American insistence on linking a debt write-off with the actual signing of a peace agreement between Jordan and Israel.

Hopefully, among things that President Clinton had in mind included Jordan's debt burden when he said that "we

will do whatever we can" to keep the momentum in peace

The most tangible result of the Washington summit is an end to the damaging sea-based inspection of Jordan-bound cargo. The process, which taxed Jordan more than \$1.2 billion since it started in August 1990, will now be replaced with a land-based verifications regime at a much, much lower cost while respect is assured for Jordan's political sovereignty and territorial integrity. The mances that held up an agreement were successfully sorted ont during the Jordanian delegation's talks in Washington.

Jordanian security needs were also addressed during the Washington discussions. Maintaining internal security and being able to defend itself units.

being able to defend itself while not posing any military threat to its neighbours are two essential elements in the commitment of any country to regional peace. Jordan is no different. If anything, an additional element to the Jordanian equation is the fact that a properly equipped Jordaman security force will be an asset to international peacekeeping operations. We Jordanians have proved our willingness to contribute to international peacekeeping in former Yugoslavia, Cambodia and several other troublespots. In essence, help given to Jordan's security forces represents help to keeping peace and stability elsewhere as and when needed.

We are indeed aware that there is a handful of American agencies and institutions that still harbour ill-founded suspicions about Jordan. But then it is a fact of life that such agencies and institutions have their own parameters and considerations while judging any country, and there is very little that we in Jordan or the administration itself could do to dispel them. Quite simply Jordan cannot sacrifice its principles for the sake of pleasing them. We hope that those agencies and institutions take in the consistency of Jordan's position throughout the decades of wars and upheavals in the Middle East as the starting point for a possible reassessment of the Kingdom.



No easy way out of Nigerian crisis

By James Jukwey

LAGOS — Prospects of a quick solution to a political crisis in Nigeria are dim after millionaire husinessman Moshood Abiola defied the military authorities and declared himself president, analysts said.

Mr. Abiola, widely acknowledged as the winner of last year's annulled presidential election, is still in hiding from police since making the announcement at a secretly staged ceremony in Lagos on the first anniversary of the June 12

No foreign power has so far recognised his presiden-cy, but political analysts say he must be party to any deal that aims to solve the crisis and bring lasting peace to Nigeria.

"There can't be a solution without involving Abiola in any dialogue, said one former state governor. "After all he won an election which the military

annulled," he added. Many, however, doubt that one year after the cancelled vote Mr. Abiola can expect to become president without a hard fight.

"Indeed, so much water has passed under the hridge that chief Moshood Abiola would find it extremely difficult to rule this country without further negotiations," wrote political commentator Ude Eze in the daily Times newspaper.

The present administration has made it clear that the vote, cancelled by former military president Ibrahim Babangida, cannot be restored without causing more chaos in Nigeria.

General Sani Ahacha, who seized power in November in the aftermath of chaos precipitated by the annulment, believes instead that his planned constitutional conference which started Monday remains the best way of restoring demo-

Gen. Abacha has been meeting prominent Nigerians from across the country in Ahuja, the inland capital, to promote dia-logue as the only way out of the crisis but has left the opposition in no doubt that he would not step down for Mr. Abiola as they are de-

While talking to a crosssection of people the government has so far rebuffed the opposition National Democratic Coalition (NADECO), which backs Mr. Abiola's quest for the presidency.
NADECO says it is willing to talk with the government hut the administration says the group is not reg-

The stand-off is compounded by the detention of dozens of opposition members over their call for Gen. Abacha to quit for Mr. Abiola.

Mr. Abiola's proclamation followed weeks of tension over whether or not he would make good his avowed intention to declare his own government and risk a confrontation with the military.

When it finally came, there were no journalists present to record what is the biggest challenge to the federal authority since 1966 when Emeka Ójukwu declared the secession of Biafra in southeastern Nigeria

which led to a civil war in which more than one million people died.

A week of protests

arranged by pro-democracy groups to support him failed to make much impact and only minor protests were staged in his home region, the Yoruhawa speaking southwest.

Commentators said Nigerians face such hard economic times that people want to he left alone to get on with their lives.

But they said despite the calm prevailing in most parts of Nigeria, the sonthwest was still volatile and that there could be riots there if Mr. Abiola was arrested.

The wealthy businessman is due to make his first public appearance since his June 11 proclamation were time this week, probably at a public rally, his aides said. Police have vowed they will arrest him if they see

Gen. Abacha is meanwhile pressing ahead with his pet constitutional conference despite scepticism from opposition groups that the conference is designed to

prolong military rule. While the government appears to be controlling the conference with the nomination of nearly a third of the participants and the appointment of its presiding officers, more people now seem to he speaking up in

favour of the conference. 'We must accept the reality of the constitutional conference and channel all national grievances to it, including June 12, for deliberations and firm resolution " said former senator Ebenezer Ikeyina.

by Elia Nasrallah

THE MIDDLE East ques-tion, His Majesty King Hussein's visit to the United States, domestie affairs and pan-Arah issues featured in the columnists' articles of the Jordanian local press in the past week.

Al Ra'i daily said that the King's visit to the United States has permitted him to better present the Jordanian position and the Kingdom's demands at the peace process. The United States, added the paper, now better understands the Kingdom's legitimate demands for the restoration of all its lands and water and its needs for contributing towards a lasting peace.

Al Dustour said that the King's discussions in the United States with the U.S. administration officials and President Bill Clinton represent Jordan's continued drive to ensure a peaceful settlement. It said that the King was keen on conveying to Washington the Kingdom's position and de-

THE WEEK IN PRINT

King's U.S. visit serves to explain Jordanian position, demands

and that are required to ensure stability and security in the Middle East.

Taher Al Adwan, a columnist in Al Dustour, said that the United States now holds all the cards not only with regard to the Middle East peace process, but also towards various world issues. It is not in the interest of Jordan to be in confrontation with the United States, he said, saying that the strained relations with Washington over the past four years have helped to tighten the siege on the country which started in the wake of the Gulf crisis. The writer said that redressing the strained relations and creating a new concept in bilateral ties are bound to further boost the chances for stability and would be most beneficial for the

Kingdom. Mahmoud Rimawi, a columnist in Al Ra'i, said that Israel's continued drive to raid Lehanon and to pursue repression in the West Bank does not reflect good intentions hut rather evil tendencies which, he said, reflect the Jewish state's true nature and its determination to remain adamant in its aggressive stand. The writer said that the Israelis are also taking a very stuhborn stand with regard to the repatriation of the released detainees to their homeland and continue to imprison Hamas

members, including their leader Sheikh Ahmad Yassin in further show of disre-

gard to the Arah demands. Mohammad Kawash, a columnist in Al Dustour, said that the Israeli authorities are making it difficult for the Palestinian police force to control self-rule areas by keeping the released detainees away from their hometowns. The writer said the Israelis are complicating matters further by blocking the Palestine National Authority's drive to reconstruct institutions tequired to ensure stability and security in these areas.

Ahmad Al Misleh, a columnist in Al Ra'i, said that Israel's jails continue to take in more Palestinian de-

tainees and continue to serve as home to all those who refuse to sign statements abandoning their tesistance campaign against occupation. For this and other reasons, at least 6,000 detainees in Israeli jails have started an open hunget strike and for this reason their kinsmen in the occupied territories are determined to pursue the struggle until their lands have become free once

again, he said.

A columnist in Sawt Al Shash daily commented on a statement issued by the Economie and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) about poverty in Jotdan, saying that the problem according to the

statement has reached dangerous proportions. Fi-gures released in that statement showed that 21.3 per cent of people in Jordan live in poverty, which is nearly one quarter of the population, said Shafiq Obeidat. The writer said that the poverty problem cannot he solved through providing JD 50 a month for a poor family hut rather through closer cooperation on the part of the private and public institutions towards creating joh opportu-

Ahmad Dahbas, a columnist in Sawt Al Shaah, said that doctors estimate the number of people suffering from diabetes in Jordan at 200,000. The writer said that caring for the diabetics can be much cheaper through collective action on the part of the concerned parties and organisations simply because many of the diabetics are poor and cannot afford the cost of treatment on their

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STANDARD STANDARD

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China's minorities fight poverty trap

By Giles Hewitt Agence France Presse

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KAILI, China - South-The means being be west China's ethnic minorities adorn the cover of many a regional tourist brochure here, but the colourful images belie the harsh reality of a life spenr on the margins of mainstream society.

while the equality of all nationalities was enshrined in Communist China's founding constitution, the vast majority of the more than 30 minority groops lo-cated in Guizhou, Yoonan and Guangzi provinces still eke out a subsistence lifestyle in some of the country's poorest and most isolated

Around 35 per cent of Guizhou's 33 million population are registered ethnic minorities, most of them hving in the province's three specially designated autonomous prefectures of Qiannan, Qianxioan and Qiandongnan.

In their home village some 32 kilometres from Qiandongnan's urban ceotre Kaili, Pan Jiahe, 26, and his 60-year-old father both from the Miao nationality -- view their minority lifestyles from different perspectives.

For Pan's father, economic reform has meant a significant shift in living standards, allowing his family to sell surplus produce on the opeo market and move beyond mere subsistence farming.

But Pan, who works as a teacher in Kaili and like many of his generation is impatient with the pace of change in the countryside, feels that not enough is being done to improve the

lot of the minorities. "Things are certainly better than they were 20 years ago, but it is meaningless to talk about equality if the opportunities don't exist to realise its benefits," be

Despite government plans to establish a mandatory nine-year education nationwide by the turn of the century, even six years of education is still a rarity among the minorities in

Guizhou, where the school drop-out rate - especially for girls — is extremely

According to Yang Guizhu, deputy director of the Guizbou Education Commissioo, the government has made minority education a priority but faces a formidable task. their trip would become a

10-year excursioo around

Their long adventure

which started after a sum-

mer trip, turned into a

primary concern of break-

ing the Guinness book of

records. Using their newly

bought four-wheel Toyota

Land Cruiser, the two pas-

sed through 63 countries

before stopping for a brief visit in the Kingdom.

The couple, in their early

50s, abandoned their nor-

mal life in Wallisellen near

Zurich, used their 15-year

savings and took advantage

of the fact that they had no

childreo, had good know-

ledge of geography and

foreign laoguages, to

embark on the biggest

adventure of their lives:

Touring the world on four

trip hy cruising through South and North America

for three years then went

back home for Christmas.

After their holiday visit,

they packed their car and

took off for a never-ending

their long serving Land

Cruiser is still in top condi-

tion. With the engine that

bas never failed them

We liked the idea of

trip beading to Africa.

The couple began their

the world.

"Some of these people are still facing clothing and food problems, so schooling ohviously takes a back seat. which is why we have more than 200,000 dropouts from primary and middle schools every year," Mr. Yang said. All of Guizhou's 17 na-

tive minorities, which include the Miao, Dong, Tujia, Yi, Gelao and Yao, speak mutually onintelligible dialects and as many as two million are unable to speak standard Mandarin Chinese, while many more are illiterate.

For a few selected villages, tourism has provided a partial exit from the poverty circle, as they receive monthly stipends from the local tourism bureao to put on impromptu "traditional" festivals for foreign visitors - complete with singers and dancers clad io embroidered costumes and silver jewelry.

travelling and we thought to The vast majority, however, rely on preferenourselves, since we didn't tial government policies which include basic food have any commitments and we have worked all our subsidies and projects, involving U.N. funding, to lives, why don't we travel around the world," Mrs. Schmid, a secretary for develop agriculture and more than 14 years, said. Dented and full of dust, promote cottage industries like handicrafts.

Minorities were also given special dispensations when the one-child family was introduced in 1981, and are currently allowed to have two, or even three children.

for those who manage to leave their villages, life in the towns and cities dominated by China's Han majority has its own drawbacks.

"I can make a better living here, but certain people definitely look down on me, "said Zhong Wanshu, a Dong who works in a Kaih electronics factory and whose Han in-laws have only recently accepted his marriage to their daughter three years ago.

Touring the world on four wheels

AMMAN — When the Retired, determined, and not short of time, the Schmids board their Land Swiss couple Emil and Liliana Schmid planned a Cruiser on a drive to the Guinness records. Rana Husseini reports rourists visit to North America in October of 1984, they had no idea that



ON THE ROAD: The Schmids in their trustworthy vehicle (file photo)

through the desert, mountains or rivers, their four wheeler was also their restaurant, bedroom and bath-

They travelled 33,680 kilometres, 8610 hours of driving, consumed 81396 liters of gasoline and 37 tyres and fitted 97 punctures. They also exhausted 16 car batteries and changed oil 49

"We enjoy being in the nature and coming in contact with new cultures," said Mr. Schmid, a retired financial manager.

Before entering a new country, the team said they would study its geography and habits, culture, traditions and laws. But to their great relief, things were better than expected.

"Although we had a specific image about each country we wanted to visit, to our surprise things were completely different from what is really said," Mr. Schmid said.

"People were very nice, heipful and peaceful and offered us heip and shelter when we needed it," he

The beautiful landscapes and nature pushed the couple to keep looking for something new every day.

Mrs. Schmid described a wonderful experience at dawn in Australia: "We

were sleeping in the car as nsual, and when I woke up early in the morning I saw a small kangaroo looking at me and when he saw me lookiog at him he rao

Their global trip was graphed, photographed and preserved by Mrs. Schmid who had already shipped nearly 150 kilogrammes of souvenirs and more than 12,000 slides back home.

away.'

So far, the couple admitted they have been "lucky' for not having faced any serious troubles, except for ooe "frightening" incideot when their Swiss colleague was shot five times by someone wielding an AK47 during a trip through Guatemala.

"We still don't know why he was attacked. The same group of people followed 🖽 but we somehow managed to escape," he said.

The couple, who arrived in Jordan from Saudi Arabia on June 13, left for Syria Wednesday in bid to break the current Guinness world record of \$3 countries, which is credited to Manfred Muller and Paul Ernest Luhrs, two Germans who drove into the records book back in 1991 for journeying 350,000 kilometres across 83 countries in a tiny Citroen 2cv.

"All we need is to prove that we have crossed from oce country to another with the same car and doonments. Theo we will apply for it," Mr. Schmid ex-

Having been married for 25-years, the couple said the only challenge they will face wheo the trip ends is adjusting to the Swiss system and routine which they abandoned in 1984.

"Life on the road has humhled us. In Switzerland, we really oever valued what we had. But in our 10 years (of travel) we've grown closer as a couple and learned and experieoced so many different things other than our routine life back home, which is going to be very hard to get used to again.

Zimbabwe anxious to revive trade pact with Pretoria

By Francis Mdlongwa Reuter

HARARE — Zimbabwean exporters, crucial to the country's economic revival, hope South Africa's new government will quickly revive a preferential trade

The Harare government says it plans "vigorous" talks with Pretoria to renew the pact, which dated back to 1964 but which Sooth Africa's previous white rulers allowed to lapse. Economie analysts say

the renewal of the agreement, which covered annual two-way trade worth at least \$250 million, could take time because Pretoria is preoccupied with domestic issues and present trade agreements suit it.

'It seems the South Africans are not particularly concerned to get the trade accord renewed too quickly because they benefit more as things stand now," a bank economist said.

"They want to give time to their industries to prepare for competition." Diplomatic sources said Zimbabwe had submitted draft proposals to the South

Africans for their study but no negotiations were under way. Zimhabwe's President Robert Mugabe said during a visit to London in May he hoped for a new trade pact towards the end of the year. He mentioned the need for

it to South African President Neison Mandela. Political analysts said it appeared unlikely Pretoria would approve a bilateral agreement before a planned review of overall relations with the countries of South-

ern African. "South Africa is proceeding as slowly as possible and I don't think there will be any significant signing until there has been a major review of all agreements,'

one analyst said. He suggested other countries in the region, including Sooth Africa's partoers Lesotho, Swaziland, Botswana and Namibia within the Southern African Customs Unioo (SACU), would oppose preferential treatment for Zimbabwe. The same reaction might

also he expected from other countries which are members of the 10-nation Southern African Development Community (SADC), which South Africa is due to join at its annual summit to be held in Tanzania in August.
South Africa's new Trade

Minister Trevor Manuel said last month be would promote a rationalisation of economic organisations in the region.

In allowing the trade pact to lapse, thus imposing 50 per cent duties on Zimbabwean goods, Pretoria said it was protecting its own in-dustries, mainly textiles and clothing, from unfair competition.

It hit most Zimbabwean exports to South Africa, its biggest trading partner in the region, and forced Zimbabweans to look for new markets in Europe and Asia which sharply increased

transport costs. The analysts saw the action by Pretoria in part as punishment for Zimbabwe's continued hardline attitude towards Sontb Africa's white minority rulers negotiating their country's transition to democra-

Mr. Mugabe was one of the most vociferous opponents of apartheid despite his country's heavy dependence on trade and transport with South Africa.

The two countries had trade missions which acted as virtual embassies, but full diplomatic ties were only established after April's landmark elections which brought Nelson Mandela and bis African National Congress (ANC)



A fireboat sprinkles water onto the burning supertanker Maerak Navigator off nothern Sumatra in Indo barrels of oil, collided with the tanker San Honour resulting in a fire on the supertanker (AFP photo)

Tanker owners try to clean up environmental image

By Alister Doyle Reuter

OSLO - World tanker owners are seeking to clean up an image tarnished by oil spills arguing that tankers pollute oceans less than motorists dumping oil in town drains.

"Tanker accidents contribute just 4.7 per cent to oil spilled at sea... 99.98 per cent of oil arrives at its destination without incident," says their new brochure.

It comes from the International Association of Independent Tanker Owners (INTERTANKO), an Oslo-based group, whose members control more than half the world's tank-

Lobbying for a better reputation, the group says that television pictures of blazing tankers, vast oil

slicks and dying seabirds wildly exaggerate the prob-lem of spills.

"More oil enters the sea from motorists draining their sump oll into the town drain than all the world's tankers," it says in an unprecedented series of leaf-

But environmentalists say tanker owners will be viewed with suspicion by world opinion until they do more to prevent ageing, rusting tankers from sailing the oceans with poorlypaid, badly-trained crews.

And they say that, whatever the global statistics, massive oil spills can be disastrous locally marine life can take 15 to 20 years to recover.

INTERTANKO is organising courses for traditionally secretive tanker owners on handling the media in a crisis as part of efforts to stir a debate about responsibility for all pollution.

Ir is publishing a series of statistics about tankers and the environment and plans to send representatives to the site of any major spills in future to counter what many owners view as immediate doomsaying by en-

vironmentalists. "Many people remember the Braer tanker accident, said Tormod Rafgaard, managing director of IN-TERTANKO.

The Braer ran aground off Britain's far-north Shetland Isles in early 1993, spilling 85,000 tonnes of oil into the sea double the amount spilt by the Exxon Valdez off Alaska in 1989.

"Nobody died, no one was even injured," he said. "Yet how many people remember the name of the Polish ferry that sank around the same time with the loss of more than 50

The car and rail ferry Jan Heweliusz, sailing between Sweden and Poland, capsized in high seas a week after the Braer ran aground. Fifty-four died in the icy waters.

Oil from the Braer was surprisingly quickly dispersed. INTERTANKO argues that environmentalists overlook the fact that natural forces often clean up spills far more quickly than expected but only after the media have lost interest.

"INTERTANKO is missing the point. The problem is that tanker owners suffer from the worst ones in the pack," said Paul Horsman, head of the oil campaign at the International Environmental

Organisation Greenpeace. Until tanker owners acknowledge they have a role to play in getting rid of

the bad players, they will suffer from a bad reputa-tion," he said.

"The way INTER-TANKO can make a positive difference is by getting rid of the rust huckets, substandard crews and incompetent masters," he said. "There's no answer in just making a pure public relations response.

According to INTER-TANKO statistics, the average age of the world's 3,000 tankers is just over 13 years - close to the oldest m a generation. Many are far older than the average.

Mr. Horsman dismissed INTERTANKO's argoment that oil spills are reported widely because they make good television.

"Oil is a toxic cargo. If you had containers washed overboard with pestiscides it would be the same reaction even if there were no television pictures," he

INTERTANKO argues it is pushing actively for better vessels and crews. Its statistics show that the oumber of accidents resulting in oil pollution has fallen by 50 per cent in 20 vears

And it says that about 20 per ceot of the cost of a new tanker is dedicated to safety and anti-pollution measures — compared to about 7.5 per cent invested on similar schemes by manufacturing industry as a whole.

Yet some tanker owners believe the effort to turn the tide of public opinion may be wasted.

"Some owners reckon their reputation is 'bloody awful' and that getting it even to 'awful' would be too expensive," said Philip Rankin, an advisor at IN-TERTANKO.

Major industrialised countries intervene to rescue U.S. dollar

WASHINGTON (AFP) - York and Europe said. The United States and at least eight other countries in- after the interventions tervened in foreign exchange markets Friday to rescue the dollar, but the battered U.S. currency continued to slide.

The Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen confirmed the intervention by the Federal Reserve (Fed) and the central banks of the other Group of Seven (G-7) partners, the world's largest industrialised

conntries.
"Our actions leday in cooperation with our G-7 partners and other monetary authorities reflect a shared concern about recent developments in financial markets." Mr. Bentsen said in a brief statement that raised the possibility of further action if Friday's efforts fail. Mr. Bentsen said the Un-

ited States looks forward "to continued cooperation to maintain the conditions necessary for sustained economic expansion with low in-

The Fed was joined in the action by G-7 members Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Japan. Denmark and Switzerland also confirmed their participation.

Tae Dutch and Austrian central banks bought dollars. currency dealers in New

The dollar's failure to raily sparked selloffs on the U.S. stock and bond markets, and fears that the Federal Reserve will raise short-term interest rates for the fifth time this year to make dollar-domination securities more

attractive to investors. In a volatile session on the New York Stock Exchange. the Dow Jones index of 30 leading industrials at one coint was down more than 50 points in heavy trading. By 1:45 p.m. (1745 GMT), the Dow was down 44.71 points at 3,654.38.

The average interest rate on the main 30-year Treasury bond jumped to 7.51 per cent from 7.40 per cent late Thurs-

President Bill Clinton downplayed the dollar's weakness, saying it ran counter to the bealing state of the U.S. economy.

The dollar's value is "a

development that is puzzling a lot of economists because our economy is performing so wei!," ne said in a radio interview from Air Force

Mr. Clinton pointed to the United States' lead in U.S. ico growth compared with other advanced countries,

the Fed will raise short-term interest rates at the next meeting of its policy-setting Open-Market Committee meeting, set July 5-6, dealers

In Tokyo, the governor of the Bank of Japan, Yasuchi Mieno, said currency instability is disturbing the fragile recovery of the Japanese eco-

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and an unemployment rate lower than that of any of the advanced countries except "In a funny way, the currency values are running in the opposite direction of eco-

nomic strength," he said. The last international into economic fundamentals. tervention, on May 4, involved 19 countries and was the largest snch effort in more than a decade, but its effect was short-lived.

Friday's intervention came after the shaky dollar slid for a week and fell in Tokyo Friday to a new local closing low of 100.40 yen, from 101.31 yen Thursday. It had fallen below 100 yen in London in initial trading.

In New York, the dollar stood at 1.5960 marks just

before the intervention by the Fed, which bought dollars against yen at 100.95 yen and at 101.55 yen. The greenback jumped,

then dipped and rose again following the concerted intervention. But the rally quickly eroded.

The Fed intervened again,

this time against the German mark, buying dollars at the 1.6045-mark level, dealers

But hy 1:25 p.m. (1725 GMT) in New York, the dollar was down to 1.5820 marks, far below Thursday's close of 1.6045 marks. Against the Japanese yen, the dollar stood at 100.20, down from 101.40 Thursday. The markets now believe

Mr. Mieno also said that a recent surge in Japanese long-term interest rates refleced a reversal of expectations in the local bond market, indicating that rates had risen excessively in relation

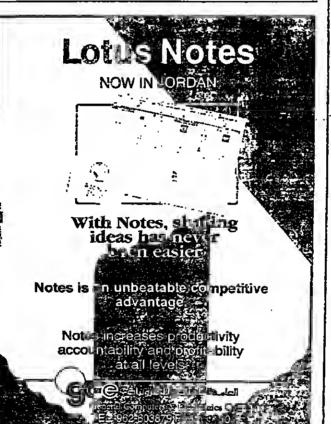
"The latest volatility in the foreign exchange market is a disturbing factor for the Japanese economy as it has just started to head towards a recovery," the central bank governor told a luncheon at the Japan National Press

Mr. Mieno declined to comment on whether the Bank of Japan would conduct coordinated intervention in currency markets with other countries. Buf he said there was a consensus among the G-7 that foreign exchange rates should be stable and sharp volatility was undesir-

Mr. Mieno said that the recovery of the Japanese economy could be undermined if strength of the yen accelerated a endency hy Japanese companies to move offsbore although be acknowledged trhat the rise of the yen offered some benefits in the long term.

The rise of the yen might prompt a reorganisation of Japanese industry, especially labour-intensive industry which is losing its competitive edge to Asian and formerly communist countries, thus dulling the tempo of economic recovery," he said.

"I'm not saying that the yen's rise is had as it will have ceretain benefit on the domestic economy in the longer run. But it bas a big impact on the economy which is currently in a delicate phase," Mr. Mieno said.



WE DON'T

KNOW HOW

TO WRITE,

DO WE?

Weekly analysis of movements, trends of major world currencies

This report, which covers the week from Thursday June 16, 94 to Wednesday June 22, 94, is provided by Naser Nabulsi, private client group at Merrill Lynch — Dubai.

Overview

Fundamental View: The dollar st a new postwar record low of JPY/USD 99.8 and also fell through the bottom of the DM/USD 1.60-to-1.70 range which we have expected to prevail for much of this year. Prospects for another bout of large-scale intervention by central banks and dollar support measures by the U.S. Treasury could belp the dollar recover temporarily, hut a number of fundamental and confidence factors are pointing toward ongoing dollar weakness in coming

We are accordingly revising down our outlook for the dollar against European currencies, and maintaining our cautious view of the dollar's prospects against the yen. We now expect the dollar to trade at the DM/USD 1.55 level in 12 months time compared to our previous forecast of DM/USD 1.70. We maintain our 12-month forecast for the dollar at JPY/USD 95.

Technical View: The European currencies were particularly strong against the U.S. dollar during the week ended June 17 and, as a result, the dollar index fell 2.2 per cent for the period. This was the index's largest week-to-week loss since April 1993. Despite this weakness, many of the sentiment indicators that we monitor for the dollar have actually deteriorated. The inability of the index to respond to generally constructive medium term indicators is obviously a sign of

Thus, despite the fact that the downtrend is mature, more discernible signs of dollar strength will be needed before a bottom is indicated. In that regard, a rally through 92.90-93.50 will be required to break the multi-month downtreod. Significant support exists at 88.30-90.30.

Japanese yen

Fundamental View: The dollar fell to a postwar record low against the yen, hreaking below the JPY/USD 100 yen level at one point. U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen is expected to unveil a support package that could boost the dollar temporarily, but we maintain our view that the dollar will be. difficult to stabilise against the yen and will eventually reach the JPY/USD 95 level over the next 12 months. Barring an aggressive move toward monetary tightening by the Fed, we expect statements pointing to improved U.S.-Japan trade relations will have relatively little impact. The dollar problem now has more to do with fundamental trade and financial imbalances rather than U.S.-Japan politics.

Even with the recent hike in U.S. interest rates and low

overnight rates in Japan, it is not clear that Japanese investors are willing or able to finance the Japan's hage current account imbalance after having suffered large losses on their foreign and domestic investments in recent years. We continue to expect Japan to post a current account surplus of more than \$125 billion this year. We expect the weight of that surplus, relative to underlying private sector capital flows, to eventually push the dollar toward our 12-month target of 95 yen.

Deutschemark

Fundamental View: The dollar has fallen through the bottom of the DM/USD 1.60-to-1.70 range which we expected to prevail for much of this year. Prospects for another bout of large-scale intervention by central banks and dollar support. measures by the U.S. Treasury could well boost the dollar back temporarily; but a number of factors are pointing toward a period of sustained dollar weakness in coming quarters. We are accordingly revising down our ontlook for the dollar against European currencies.

Factors prompting us to revise our ontlook for the dollar include (1) ongoing deterioration of the U.S. trade and current accounts accompanied by net outflows of long-term capital, (2) prospects for stronger growth in Europe and slower growth in the United States, (3) prospects for real interest rate differentials to start moving in favour of European currencies, and (4) the risk of continued weak confidence in U.S. economic and foreign policy among foreign investors.

Because the dollar is already at the weak end of its historic

trading range and generally undervalued on a purchasing power parity basis, we expect further weakness to be rather modest. The key point is that the U.S. unit now seems unlikely to rally on a sustained basis unless the Fed raises interest rates far more aggressively than we expect. We now expect the dollar to trade at the DM/USD 1.55 level in 12 months time compared to our previous forecast of DM/USD 1.70.

Technical View: The Deutschemark ralied 3.4 per cent against the U.S. dollar last week and continued strong during the early part of this week. Medium term sentiment remains over-bought, hut showed initial signs of improvement last week. Medium term momentum continues to appear to be peaking,

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but short term oscillators are still constructive. This last point plus the breakout by the Swiss franc allows for at least a test 1993's resistance at 1.568-1.588 DM/U.S.\$.

A decline through 1.657-1.671 appears required to break the uptrend channel and, therefore, is viewed as first support. The mark/yen cross-rate remains in its multi-month trading range. Short term momentum is improving, and medium term oscillators remain constructive. This confinence allows for a test of the 1994 high just under 65.00. Nearby support is at 63.60 and 62.20.

Pound sterling

Fundamental View: The British pound moved higher with the German mark against the dollar in the past week, to U.S.\$/GBP 1.53, but traded lower against the DM, near DM/GBP 2.47. In the near-term, we expect the pound to continue to trade in the 2.47-to-2.52 range that it has held since the beginning of March. In the longer-term, the pound should be able to benefit from a rising short-term rate premium against the mark. Signs of stronger economic growth reinforce our belief that U.S. hase rates have bottomed. However, we do not expect an increase in rates before late in the year in light of significant spare capacity in the economy. In fact, the release of the minutes from the May 4 meeting between Bank of England Governor Eddie George and U.K. Chancellor Kenneth Clarke said that the two agreed that no change in U.K. interest rates was necessary for the time being.

A modest aptick in U.K. short-term rates coupled with a ries of German repo rate cuts should lead the pound up to DM/GBP 2.60 in 12 months. In light of changes we made to dollar/Deutschemark forecast wheih looks for a stronger Deutschemark, we now expect the pound to trade at U.S.\$ GBP 1.68 in 12 months rather than 1.53.

Technical View: The British pound rallied 1.7 per cent versus the U.S. dollar during the week ended June 10, thereby penetrating resistance at 1.52 U.S.\$/L. Sentiment, while still officially neutral, is still at its most overbought extreme in almost two years. Short term momentum is npwardly biased, and - reflecting the narrow multi-month trading range medium term oscillators continue to show very little definition. Resistance now exists at \$1.55.

The lower end of the trading range at \$1.46 is support; a break below that would allow for at least a test of the 1993 low near \$1.43 and possibly long term support at \$140-\$1.42. The DM cross-rate remains near its 1994 low and short term oscillators are weak. However, medium term oscillators are still trying to bottom, so while a test of 2.43-2.44 is still possible, an important low may not be that far away. First resistance exists at 2.515, with second resistance at 2.53-2.56.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY JUNE 25, 1994

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The new plans you want to put in motion should be postponed for a few days in order to assure your getting the max-mum benefit. Don't let one who has been negative in the pest mess up your deal.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Conferring with close ties and, plauming the future wisely is important foday. Attend a worthwhile, group meeting where you can get beneficial ideas.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) now to be more cooperative with associates in the fu-ture and get better results. Relax and express happiness with those in your family.

GEMINE: (May 21 to June 21) Study your environment and make plans for improvement. You can easily make a fine impression on others today which will be helpful to you. MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Use this day for improving conditions at home by adding more comfort. Put your talents to work with fellow executes you are around. low associates you are around. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Communicate with associates early in the day and plan how to improve production in the future. Think constructively

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) A fine day to study how to improve your financial status and in a most

about proceeding on a new

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation ethical fashion. Make repairs to your property which have been put off.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Study your appearance well and know how to improve it to your own satisfaction. Take time to engage in your favourite hobby or

SCORPEC: (October 23 to November 21) You can obtain the data you need which was difficult to get during regular workweek. Strive for increased happiness with your loved

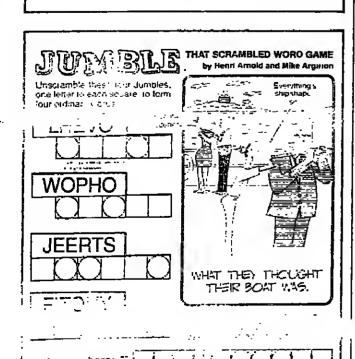
SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) A fine day to cultivate new acquaintnaces Take steps to make your surroundings more comfortable for your family and close

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Show more interest in civic affairs and gain added prestige. Take health treatments and improve your appearance by exercise and diet.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Delve into some new outlet which is appealing and could be beneficial in the future. Express your talents to those in authority.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Study all the prom-iscs you have made and keep them to the best of your ability. Take no risks with money at this time or you could lose it





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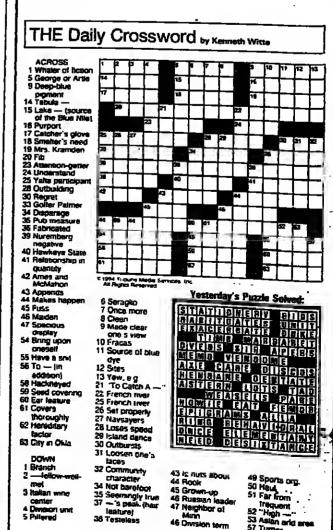
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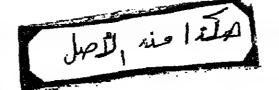
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| U.S. Dollar in Internation | ational Markets | | |
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| Sterfag Pound | 1.5320 | 1.5311 | |
| Deutsche Mark | 1.6054 | 1.6065 | |
| Suba Franc | 1.3505 | 1.3535 | |
| French Franc | 5.4653 | 5,4935** | |
| Japanese Yen | 101.00 | 101 31 | |

European Current I nit

| Eurocurrency Interest R | S Date: 23 6 1991 | | | |
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| U.S. Dollar | 4.1200 | 4.5100 | 4.5800 | 5.1200 |
| Sterling Pound | 1.7500 | 1.9300 | 5.1800 | |
| Deutsche Mark | 4.7540 | | 1.7500 | _ |
| Swiss France . | 3.9300 | 4.0600 | 4.1500 | 1.5700 |
| French Franc | 3.7500 | 5.3700 | 5.5000 | 5.6700 |
| Japanese 3 en | 1.6700 | 1.5700 | 7.1700 | 2.3700 |
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| Lebanes: Lieu | 0.040495 | 0.041335 |
| Saudi Rical | 0.1637 | 0.1545 |
| kuwalti Druar | 2.5560 | 2.5850 |
| Dolari Riral | 0.1875 | 0.1865 |
| Egyptian Pound | 0.0010 | 0.2250 |
| Omani Riral | 1.7750 | 1.7590 |
| CAE Dirham | 0.1575 | 0.1883 |
| Greek Drachma | 0.2800 | U.3190 |
| Cyprist Pound | 1.3785 | 1.3945 |

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and

| ounion markets riking. | | | |
|------------------------|--|--|--|
| U.S. \$1.00 costs | 1.3888/96 1.5194/24 1.7836/46 1.3336/40 32.78/82 5.4490/40 1570.0/1. 100.26/30 7.6375/75 | | |
| | | | |

Belgian francs French francs Italian lire Japanese yen Swedish crowns Norwegian crowns Danish crowns \$1.5485/92

Canadian dollar

Deutschemarks

Dutch guilders

Swiss francs

One ounce of gold \$390.85/391.25

AFM prices slip to all-year low

By P.V. Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Stock prices at the Amman Financial Market (AFM) closed at an ail-year low last week, reflecting a general gloom in the market over uncertainties of Jordanian-Palestinian economic cooperation and the gradual withdrawal of foreign portfolio dealers, hrokers said Friday.

But the brokers expected a turn-up in the fortunes of the market this week after the meeting Wednesday between His Majesty King Hussein and U.S. President Bill Clinton produced strong indications of American economic support for the Kingdom as well as advancing the Jordanian-Israeli track of peace negotiations.

The weekly AFM report said the general share price index based on 60 major companies listed at the bourse closed at 148.95 points on Wednesday, posting a drop of nearly two points or 1.7 per cent from

the previous week. It was the first time that the index had dipped down the psychological barrier of 150 points in more than one year. The index had risen to 168 points in March, the highest this year, before going on a sharp decline starting with the Jordanian-U.S. stand-off over the siege of Aqaba. The index stood at 150.8 points at

last week's opening. Douhts east over

Jordanian-Palestinian economic cooperation and prospects for the Jordanian dinar in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip as a result of the economie cooperation agreement between Israei and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in April compounded the situation, leading to a steady decline in

the stock prices. Adding to the situation was a gradual withdrawal by foreign portfolio dealers from the market away towards Asian and Far Eastern markets,

brokers said. "Indications that foreign investors were coming into the AFM with nearly \$100 million in capital were behind the interest of many inves-tors," said a broker. "They wanted to stake positions in anticipation of the foreign investors, and raised the prices. But the trend now appears to be just the oppo-

The government approved foreign investors' entry to the AFM late last year under controlled conditions and several had in fact come in. They were very conservative in getting engaged, but this was attributed to prudent policies. However, brokers said. the foreign investors were now seeing green pas-

tures elsewhere. According to the broker. foreign investors appeared to be more interested in Asian, Far Eastern and Central American markets where they could hope for quicker

Their move was no direct reflection of the situation in the AFM despite the uncertainties, but it is now reflecting on the AFM," added the broker.

But a factor that could uplift spirits in the market was the Washington summit between King Hussein and President Clinton and strong signs that Washington would be playing a direct role in addressing some of the Kingdom's economic problems.

"An improvement could be expected this week, particularly that the Jordanian economy was the focus for the White House talks," said a hroker. "Investors are hopeful that there will be a write-off of Jordanian debts to the U.S. If strong signs emerge of such an American move, then Jordanian stocks would go up."

Last week's AFM report showed that all sectors except the insurance sector suffered a beating. The index of commercial bank stock lost 0.98 per cent and closed at 162.25 points, the services sector index declined by 4.33 per cent to 136.4 points, and the in-dustrial stock index by 0.67 points to 134.6 points.

Stocks worth JD 8.3 million changed hands during the week compared with JD 5.1 million in the previous week. The industrial sector accounts for JD 5.6 million of the week's turnover, fol-

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lowed by commercial banks and financial institutions with JD 1.24 million, insurance stock with JD 600,000 and the services sector with ID 500,000.

The 62.7 per cent increase in turnover last week was mainly due to fresh stock issues by the Industrial Commercial and Agricultural Company worth JD 3.2 million and the Jordan Insurance Company worth JD 540,000.

Share of 83 companies were traded during the week, with 22 of them showing gains, 29 losing and 12 remaining stable at Wednesday's close.

It was one of the rare weeks when the insurance sector outran the services sector in turnover and also registered an upwards swing of 0.32 per cent in its index to 145.23.

Brokers said recent legislation endorsed by Parliament relaxing some of the restrictions on the insurance sector had boosted the insurance stock in the market.

"The insurance sector is seen hy many as one of the key areas identified by the government in its moves towards a free market economy," said a banker with a sizeable portfolio in the market. "It seems that after two or three weeks of observation, investors think that the moves are in the right direction and hence the interest in the sector."

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Pakistan, **Philippines** pledge to end child labour

GENEVA (R) - The International Labour Organisa-tion (ILO) has announced a formal pledge by Pakistan and the Philippines to elimin-

The U.N. agency is waging a global campaign for national enforcement of ILO conventions against child labour and has called for workers'

"The aim of the cooperation will be to promote conditions to enable the government progressively to prochild labour with a view to its ultimate elimination," the ILO said in a statement regarding Pakistan which signed a memorandum of

Pakistan and the Philippines will set up national programmes to try and prevent the employment of children in hazardous work and to protect children under 12,

Industrial countries including France and the United States argue respect for workers rights should be tied to trade privileges, but many developing states claim the interference is disguised pro-tectionism aimed at halting

Pakistan, India and Thai-

The ILO's report, discusbonded labourers not freed

Each will establish national steering committees, com-prising representatives from and workers' groups, to carry

financial and advisory ser-

1992 with \$30 million from

The other six countries are: Brazil, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Thailand and Turkey. The ILO report also urged

During the three-week international labour conference. Thailand has challenged the ILO's figures. saying the statistics were "incomplete and have yet to be

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fernand aubry

ate child labour.

rights to have a bigger voice in trade.

undertanding with the ILO

Tuesday.

according to the ILO. The ILO estimates 200 million under-age people are working in mines, factories and on the streets worldwide.

their cheap exports.

land are among Asian countries heavily criticised in a recent ILO report for tolerating employment of children, often in hazardous condi-

sed at its annual assembly in Geneva, called for Pakistan to liberate any adult or child after the country's bonded labour system was abolished in March 1992.

ministries, employers' groups out an action programme.
The ILO will provide

With the two new accords,

a total of eight states are taking part in the ILO's international programme for the elimination of child labour, a five-year plan launched in

Germany.

Thailand to end child prosditution, which the U.N. agency estimated involved between 200,000 and 800,000



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Philippine film

awards row after envelopes switch

MANILA (R) - The Philippine film industry was en-

gulfed in controversy Friday when two of the country's

most popular stars refused to

return best-actor awards after

the winning envelopes were

apparently switched. Police were ordered to investigate

how the envelopes contained

the names of the wrong win-

ners of the best actor and

actress awards at the Manila Film Festival Wednesday

night. "We are gathering evi-

dence against whoever are the culprits and we will file charges," Police Major Car-los Baltazar said. The row

erupted during the televised

awards ceremony when actor Gahhy Concepcion was

named best actor and Ruffa

Gutierrez best actress for her

role in a local dramatisation

of the Lorena Bobbitt affair. The official result of the

judges' vote prepared by a prestigious Manila accoun-

tancy firm showed the real

winners were actor Edu Man-

zano and actress Aiko Melen-

dez. Told hy shocked accoun-

tants of the apparent switch,

Manila's mayor and festival organiser Alfredo Lim

ordered a police probe

Thursday and demanded

Concepcion and Gutierrez

return the trophies. The pair

refused. Co-presenter Viveka

Bahajee, who represented

Mauritius at last month's

Miss Universe contest in

Manila and annonneed

Gutierrez as winner, was also under investigation. "If Miss

Mauritius is involved, we will

deport her," Mr. Baltazar said. Ms. Gutierrez, who came third in the 1993 Miss

World pageant in South Afri-

ca, was dragged into a con-

troversy last year after a

senator alleged that local

actresses had accepted

money for sex with members

of the Brunei royalty. She

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Bosmian Muslim commander urges offensive against Serbs

SARAJEVO (R) — The communder of the Bosnian poverament army urged the country's new Jauslim-Croat rederation to go on the offensive against rehel Serbs, Serajevo's leading newspaper

reported Friday.

wast to go to a joint (Musica-Crost) fight to liberate the joint state," Oslobod-jenje quoted General Rasim Delic as telling officers at a conference in the Bosnian capital Thursday.
"So far we have been con-

cocting a defensive war, now we are going into phase two, a war of liberation. It means our soldier has to overcome that psychological barrier, to get out of the trench and

Gen. Delic's comments, reported only hours before the Manifer-led government army was due to sign a disengagement agreement with Croat militia, struck a discor-dant note with a Bosnia-wide truce signed in Geneva this

The Mastim-Croat accord, to be signed under U.N. anspices Priday in the central Bosnian town of Gornji Vakuf, formalises a truce agreed in March when the new allies ended a year of bitter fighting and signed the federation agreement.

It will also allow the Mus-lims to bring more forces to bear against their remaining energy, the Besnian Serbs.

The Geneva ceasefire

agreement - intended to pave the way for international efforts to halt the 26-month-old war — was

compromise

vital over

N. Ireland

CORFU, Greece (R) - Bri-

tain and Ireland have to

make constitutional com-

promises to achieve a break-

arough in the Northern Ire-

Minister Dick Spring said Fri-

tie also welcomed "a great

deal of deliberation and con-

can Army (IRA) granillas of

an Anglo-Irish peace plan but varmed the IRA a temporary

coactifie was not the path to

Mr. Spring, speaking in advance of a meeting at the

European Union summit be-

tween British Frame Minister John Major and Irish leader Albert Reynolds, said: "Eoth

sides have to make comprom-

ises if we are going to make progress. Both leaders are to hold a fell-scale summit at

the end of July which could

hopefully produce the transferm for a comprehen-

Mr. Spring told BBC Radio: "It is a very tight deadline but we will be doing our best."

The agreement could in-

clude inclinat dropping its constitutional claim to North-

ern freiand and Britain might

change the Government of Ireland Act which gives it

authority over the province where more than 3,020 have been killed since 1969 in the

Irish Republican Army guer-rilla compaign.
Mr. Spring said: "Both governments accept there has

to be a constitutional balance

but obviously what we want

to get is a formulation that is

acceptable to both communi-

Last December Britain and

Ireland signed a joint peace declaration that sought to

allay the fears of the Protes-

tant majority in Northern Ire-land which wants to remain

British and the Catholie

nationalist minority which

Sinn Fein, the IRA's poli-

tical wing, has promised to

give its response shortly on the Anglo-Irish peace dec-

laration after months of pre-

Extremists from both sides

of the sectarian divide have

plunged into the political

vacuum. Last weekened six

Catholics were gunned down

and killed in a Northern Ire-

land pub by Protestant ex-

Mr. Srping said: 'a lopeful-ly Sinn Fein/IRA can remove

themselves from the violence

and announce a permanent

cessation of violence and I

think it has to be clear and

unequivocal if we are going

ful not to heighten expecta-

tions before the Reynolds-

Major meeting. "There is still

ground to be covered," one

British officials were care-

to end the conflict."

senior official said.

aspires to Irish unity.

varication.

tremists.

ties in Northern Ireland."

sive peace formula.

Spring:

violated in northern and central Bosnia, U.N. Protection Force spokesman Major Rob Annink said Friday. He also said U.N.

peacekeepers were forced to call in air support for the first time in weeks. Maj. Annink pinned most

of the blame for truce viola-

tions on Muslim troops.
"I would say the BIH (Muslim-led government army) is doing more of the attacking, perhaps challeng-ing the BSA (Bostian Serb Army) to retained 10 tent

Muslim forces fired 10 tank shells into the centre of Serbheld Doboj Friday, causing extensive damage, a Reuters television crew said.

Bosnian Serb radio reported that six people were wounded in the shelling.

Maj. Annink said U.N. peacekeepers escorting an aid convoy on Thursday near Teocak, in central Bosnia, eame under mortar and machingegun fire from Serbs and issued their first call for air support since the Geneva truce went into effect on June

NATO aircraft dropped warning flares in response. The U.N. spokesman said there were no casualties or damage in what he said was a deliberate Serb attack.

The breakaway enclave of Bihac, in the northwest, appeared calm Friday for the second day running after gov-ernment troops made significant gains at the expense of Masim rebels led by maver-ick tycoon Fikret Abdic.

MINSK (R) — Radical anti-

corruption crusader Alexan-

der Lukashenko opened a big

lead in the first round of the

Belarus presidential election,

onexpectedly pushing coo-

servative Prime Minister

Vyacheslav Kebich into a dis-

An electoral official said

Friday that according to pre-

liminary figures Mr.

Lukashenko, who has pledged to oust bribe-takers from government of the for-mer Soviet republic, won

Mr. Kebich, who focused

his campaign on a proposed

monetary union with Russia

and led in pre-election opin-

ion polls, was far back in

second place with 17.4 per

If the figures are confirmed

the two men will go through

to a second round in two

weeks. Fifty per cent was

required for outright victory.

ist Zenon Poznyak, who pol-

led a surprising 12.9 per cent.

Stanislav Shushkevich, Be-

larus's first head of state and

standard-bearer of liberal

hopes, was fourth with 9.9

The flamboyant

Lukashenko, who drew huge

crowds with accusations of

high-level abuses, appeared

to benefit from a wave of

despair and revulsion over

plunging living standards

more than two years after

"I'My first move as presi-

dent will be to stop inflation and price rises," Mr.

Lukashenko told a cheering

crowd at a rally in the final

week of campaigning.
"My second step will be to

put an end to corruption and

extinguish the mafia occupy-

HONG KONG (R) - Bri-

tain and China came tantali-

singly close Friday to ending

a two-year row with China

over funding Hong Kong's new airport, but the elusive

deal has still not been struck.

a make-or-break negotiating

round, the Sino-British Air-

port Committees decided to

charge experts from both

sides to draft an agreement

on funding the Hong Kong dollars 158 billion (\$20.3 bil-

Chief British negotiator

Hugh Davies said he hoped

the final agreement would be

struck in the next few days.

ment on the basis of the

progress we have made," he said. "I hope we will reach

agreement before the end of

this month, if possible within

on the issue despite Chinese

promises to be more flexible

in the talks, the first test of

whether relations on Hong

Kong are really thawing.
"If it had been totally re-

But he said burdles remain

the next few days."

"We will reach an agree-

lion) project.

In what had been billed as

U.K., China fail again to

end Hong Kong airport row

In third place was national-

45.1 per cent of the vote.

tant second place.

Anti-corruption campaigner

leads in Belarus elections

In Washington, defence officials of NATO allies with troops in former Yugoslavia warned the Senate that dire consequences would follow if the United States unilaterally lifted the arms embargo against Bosnia.

The officials from Britain, France, Spain and Denmark testified to the Senate Armed Services Committee as the full Senate prepared to debate a proposal to force President Bill Clinton to lift the United Nations-mandated arms ban.

The Senate has already voted in favour of lifting the ban so that Bossian Muslims can defend themselves against Serb attacks, but it has left unclear whether the United States should act

The House of Representatives has come out in favour of unilateral action.

"We believe that the lifting of the arms embargo would have the effect of pouring gasoline on fire and mean an all-out war," said Danish Undersecretary for Defence Anders Troidborg.
The United States, Russia

and European powers are expected at a July 9-10 economic summit in Italy to endorse a plan dividing Bosnia along ethnic lines with penalties if the combatants refuse to cooperate.

The plan gives 51 per cent of Bosnia to Muslims and Croats and 49 per cent to Serbs, who now control about 72 per cent and are reluc-tant to yield so much terri-

assailants had opened fire on

followed and his telephone

tapped. Mr. Kebich, 58 and prime

minister since 1990, has advo-

cated cautious reform. Be-

larus has made far less prog-

ress at mtroducing reforms

than Russia or even neigh-

He emphasised his com-

mitment to the monetary m-

ion by holding talks in the

Kremlin with Russian Presi-

dent Boris Yeltsin on the eve

of the vote and announcing

that Moscow had eased the

Mr. Lukashenko proposed

little in terms of an economic

programme but that did not

seem to matter much to vo-

ters. Like Mr. Kebich, he

called for closer ties with

Russia in a country with little

national identity in the post-

But the 39-year-old mous-

tached anti-corruption cam-paigner proved far more

appealing than the unchar-

ismatic and dour prime minis-

Lukashenko told voters last

week. "Enjoy the govern-

ment's presents but vote for

the man who will make your

Much will depend on how

the losers in Thursday's first

round mobilise their suppor-

ters to vote in the decisive

Two areh-conservative

candidates who finished at

the bottom of the race may

have robbed Mr. Kebich of

some votes and will almost

certainly now throw their

solved I would have come out

and told you," he told the

reporters after the airport

committee met for some

three hours. "We are still

discussing some of the details

as Ambassador Gno has

Chinese team leader Guo Fengmin said: "We have de-

cided to entrust the experts to

draw up a draft agreement of

the important points for rep-

resentatives of the two sides

to sign, making an agreement

The new airport has been a

source of Sino-British friction

since then-governor David

Wilson announced the pro-

ject, without consulting Chi-

na, in 1989 as a confidence-

booster after the June 4 mas-

sacre of pro-democracy stu-

The project, which in-

cludes a rail link, two cross-

harbour tunnels, major land

reclamation and one of the

world's biggest suspension

bridges, then fell victim to

the Sino-British row over

Governor Chris Patten's

democratie reforms in 1992.

dents in Beijing.

between the two sides."

support behind him.

"Be wise," Mr

bouring Ukraine.

terms of the pact.

Soviet era.

lite better.

Meanwhile, the Washing-ton Times said Priday Bosnia is getting Iranian arms shipped through Croatia "with tacit approval" of the Clinton administration that publicly opposes unilaterally lifting the arms embargo.

The newspaper said "Croatia has become a major transit point for covert Iranian arms shipments to Bosnia with the tacit approval of the Clinton administration..." quoting intelligence SOURCES

In its report, the paper quoted a senior U.S. official that "there is no U.S. support

for what Iran is doing."

But the paper said intelli-gence sources have reported the U.S. closely monitors Iran and halted an arms shipment to Bosnia last September but that the U.S. has not protested Iranian shipments of arms to Bosnia through Croatia. The paper said such shipments have increased since March.

"The lack of protests caused the Croatians to assume the administration has 'winked' at the arms shipments," the paper said, quoting an unnamed source.

Bosnian Vice President Ejup Ganic pleaded for the embargo to be lifted "to create conditions for peace and for negotiations through balance in weaponry."

He voiced little concern about warnings that lifting the embargo would result in the departure of U.N. forces, saying their role had been overstated.

agencies ing all government offices," He alleged during the eampaign that nuknown support chemical his car and that he had been

arms ban WASHINGTON (R) — The United States said Thursday there is growing evidence Russia is continuing to develop advanced chemical weapons and Moscow is failing to fulfil a promise to disclose full details of its

programme. Despite this, the State Department, the Central Intelligence Agency and the Pentagon strongly pressed the Sen-ate to ratify a treaty banning

Testifying before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, CIA Director James Woolsey cited "growing evidence that Russia has continued elements of an offensive programme.

In particular he cited recent comments by Russian scientist Vil Mirzayanov that Russia was continuing to develop chemical agents and binary weapons. "The Mirzayanov allegations have provided many fruitful leads to pursue in both intelligence and diplomatic channels," he

The chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General John Shalikashvili, also hacked ratifying the treaty at a bearing of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee examining the issue.

ont how the government would bring the deficit, which is already close to 160 trillion lira down at least to the year's target of 154 trillion lira (about \$100 hillion).

Added to the deficit is the 32.5 trillion hole which appeared last week in the accounts of the Istituto Nazionale Della Previdenza Sociale (INPS), Italy's social security.

to end ministerial contradictions

"I formally deny that the government has ever spoken of reappraising the budget, of austerity measures, of a moratorium or of raising taxes on cigarettes and pet-rol," said Mr. Berlusconi at the end of Thursday's cabinet meeting.

All these suggestions had been made by ministers.

Treasury Minister Lamberto Dini said last Friday that any hudgetary reappraisal

would have to be "substan-Three days later Budget Minister Giancarlo Paliarini

publicly suggested a rise in indirect tax on cigarettes and petrol. Transport Minister Public

Fiori added that he had a plan "to resolve the most immediate problems" with a

50 trillion lira injection into

spending or introducing new taxes." However, not a single detail of the plan was re-Industry Minister Vito

Gnutti then warned Italians that they would "all be hit with austerity measures," while Mr. Berlusconi's Forza Italia had given the impression during its electoral campaign that "austerity can be accompanied by tax cuts."

Gianni Letta, nndersecretary to the premier and very close to Mr. Berlusconi, then said measures would be announced "before the holi-

days." On Thursday Mr. Berlusconi had had enough. "We

are seeking means of in-tervention which will be the fruit of our imaginations and not the result of old recipes cooked up by previous gov-ernments," he said. He gave no further details.

nomic clout of the traffickers.

country is that the Colombian

government is actively pur-

senior anti-drug agent told

U.S. Senator John Kerry.

chairman of the Senate Sub-

Committee on Terrorism and

Drug Trafficking, wrote a newspaper article this year

quoting a former Cali cartel

kingpin prosecution witness

as saying that traffickers'

power was turning Colombia

Sen. Kerry also questioned

recent efforts by Colombia's

Prosecutor-General Gustavo

De Greiff to reach plea bar-

gaining agreements with key

members of the Cali cartel.

were not enough, a local

newspaper Thursday drew a

connection between the Cali

drug cartel and threats made

Wednesday against Colombia's World Cup soccer

team just before a key match

the threats were made against

team coach Francisco Matur-

ana by a group calling itself

"death to the Cali cartel."

Maturana is also coach of the

Cali team America, whose

board of directors has in past

The daily La Prensa said

against the United States.

As if the election scandal

into a "narcodemocracy."

Reuters earlier this year.

suing the Cali cartel,

"The higgest lie in this

Supporters of opposition leader Moshood Ablola, who mofficially won last June's annul-led Nigerian presidential post, run in Lagos' streets as Mr. Abiola addresses the crowd in a show of defiance to the military regime Nigerian police arrested Mr. Abiola at his Troops tighten security in Lagos the inland capital Ahnja from

police and troops stepped up ocurity in Lagos Friday for a visit by military ruler General Sani Abacha following the

arrest of opposition leader Moshood Abiola. Gen. Abacha, who seized power in November, was expected to visit military establishment to explain his gov-ernment's bandling of Niger-ia's political crisis and its

political programme.

Armed police were stationed at key points of the sprawling city and troops guarded the area around Dodan Barracks, the former offices and residence of Nigeria's bead of state.

The police are out in force here. There are three armonred cars patrolling Yaba and Maryland," a student leader said.

Hundreds of demonstrators, many of them youths. marched in central Lagos Thursday night demanding Mr. Abiola's release.

The demonstrators incloded Mr. Ahiola's chief

wife, Kudirat. Mr. Abiola, who is widely believed to have won an annulled presidential election in June 1993, was arrested Thursday. He was wanted for

treason since proclaiming himself president on June 11 in a direct challenge to the military government.

ROME (AFP) - The Italian

prime minister has appointed

Giuliano Ferrara as govern-

ment spokesman in an

attempt to end the flow of

eontradictory comments

made by his ministers over

how to cut the public deficit.

Mr. Ferrara, a former jour-

nalist who was a long-time

supporter of the Socialists,

will be "the voice of the

government in its collegial-

ity." the daily La Stampa

commented Friday. Silvio Berlusconi's decision

came at the end of the week

in which ministers made all

sorts of vague and usually

contradictory statements ab-

Police have not said where they are keeping him, raising concern among his family and supporters about his condi-

Opposition groups had threatened street protests after 24 hours if the authorities did not free the millionaire hnsinessman-turned-

"We are not worried at all. Lagos is calm and quiet and I believe it will remain so," Police Deputy Inspector General Nuhu Aliyu told Reuters.

The arrest elimaxes a twomonth stand-off between the National Democratic Coali-tion (NADECO) opposition alliance and government.

Mr. Ahiola joins dozens of politicians and human rights activists detained since NADECO began demanding that Gen. Abacha surrender power to Mr. Abiola to restore democracy in Africa's most populous nation,

Many face treason charges, including former senior politicians. Mr. Abiola could face similar charges for which the punishment is life impris-

onment, Soldiers have ruled Nigeria for most of the time since

independence from Britain in

a constitutional conference in

Berlusconi names spokesman

Gen. Abacha plans to hold

Monday to write a new char-

The government Friday named 96 people, many of them former politicians and officials to participate in the conference. They join some 273 conference delegates elected last month in a poll hoyeotted heavily in the southwest.

Government nominees are from each of Nigeria's 30 states and the federal territory of Abuja and include representatives of traditional rulers hut not the prodemocracy movements.

According to the govern-ment, political activity will be allowed in January when a hand-over date will be

Also Friday, Nigerian police fired tear gas to dis-perse Lagos market women protesting against the arrest of opposition leader Moshood Abiola, the opposition

"Over 1,000 market women marched in central Lagos this morning but they were dispersed by police tear gas," said Segun Jegede, an

official of the Campaign for Democracy (CD). Residents in Lagos' Ikeja district reported a separate protest involving hundreds of pro-Abiola supporters who were marching along streets

Munich film studios damaged in blaze

denied involvement.

MUNICH, Germany (AFP)

— A blaze overnight caused damage estimated at 1.5 million German marks... (\$940,000) at the Bavaria Film Studios in the southern city of Munich, police said Friday. It took almost 200 bring the blaze under control, police said, adding that nostate coffers "without cutting body had been hurt in the incident. An enquiry has been opened to determine the cause of the fire.

Zulu royalty fails to show for 'Llon King' premiere

JOHANNESBURG (R) The first animated film to be dubbed into Zulu, Walt Disney's The Lion King, went on general release in Sonth Africa Friday after a glittering premiere featuring lion cubs, Zulu maidens and throbbing drums. Scores of celebrities - but not the king of the Zulus -- turned out for the Thursday night premiere. In the film solely about animals, an orphaned royal lion cuh is driven from his home but after a series of adventures returns to claim his kingdom. It is being shown in Zulu and English versions. Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi - who had a cameo role as king in the 1964 British Zulu war film Zulu with Michael Caine were invited to the premiere but could not make it. Two 12-day-old cubs from a lion park outside Johannesburg, women dressed in traditional Znln outfits and African drummers set the mood. Blake Todd, Walt Disney's vice-president of character and voice dubbing, said the success of the Zulu version of The Lion King would decide the future of the company's filmmaking in Africa. This could be the start for Africa if Ster-Kinekor finds there is a good market there might well be more. Walt Disney is certainly proud of the ENE product."

Titie-carrying coronation role up for auction

LONDON (R) - A title which could give its owner the right to a cameo role when Britain's Prince Charles is crowned king is to be anctioned next month, the organisation charged with its sale said. A spokeswoman for the Manorial Society of Great Britain said interest has been intense in the auction of the Lordship of the Manor of Worksop in Nottinghamshire, central England, on

Drug traffickers show power in Colombia election scam BOGOTA (R) - Six months won election last Sunday over concern at the growing eco-

after police shot dead Medellin cocaine king Pablo Escobar, a scandal over election eampaign financing has shown that Colombia's other drug traffickers are stronger

Mr. Escobar's death last December removed from the scene the architect of much of the bombings, assassinations and kidnappings which terro-rised Colombia since the early 1980s, but left natouched the men who dominate the cocaine trade.

Anti-drug agents say the Cali drug cartel, dominated hy the fugitive Rodriguez Orejuela brothers, had taken over most of the trafficking out of Colombia long before Mr. Escobar's death and has since consolidated its power.

Unlike Mr. Escobar, who shot anyone who got in his way, the Rodriguez Orejuelas have a different style. Operating quietly, avoiding terrorism and trying hard to look like ordinary businessmen, they bribe and persuade rather than bomh and kill.

Just how far their influence stretches over Colombian life became evident with the publication of a cassette tape showing how the Rodriguez brothers offered \$3.5 million to the campaign of Presidentelect Ernesto Samper. Mr. Samper, who narrowly

a conservative rival. Andres Pastrana, has vigorously demed that bis campaign took drug money but has not questioned that the Cali cartel offered his treasurer money. In one of the conversa-

tions, broadcast Wednesday at a press conference by Pastrana, the go-hetween is heard to tell the Rodriguez Orejuelas: "The presidency depends on you, isn't it strange?" At another point, Mr. Rodrignez asks: "How's

Samper's thing going?" and the go-hetween replies: Well, it's in your hands." Mr. Samper accused Mr. Pastrana of worsening Colombia's image abroad by persisting with the telephone recording.

"I'm profoundly worried by this grave matter ... (and) its devastating effects on Col-Ombia's international image, (which has been) seriously harmed by the rash declarations... made by the former conservative candidate," he said in a statement published in local newspapers Thurs-

Mr. Pastrana demanded at a news conference Wednesday that Mr. Samper take a public oath to resign if judicial authorities proved that his campaign had accepted \$3.5 million from the powerful cartel, which controls most of the world's cocaine

A mayerick conservative journalist, Alberto Giraldo, has acknowledged in letters to news organisations here that he was the go-between in the tape. He said he tried to funnel drug money to both Mr. Samper and Mr. Pastrana's campaigns on behalf of the Rodriguez Orejuelas but claimed that neither campaign took the money.

The conversations also refer to apparent pay-offs to retired General Miguel Maza Marquez, a former secret police chief who ran in the first round of the elections as an independent but backed Mr. Samper in last Sunday's

Gen. Maza has described the tape as a crude fake but some local journalists have recalled how he was questioned during his police duty for never pursuing the Cali cartel with the same vigour as its Medellin rivals.

The drug money allegations have not surprised antidrug agents or diplomats familiar with Colombian poli-

Various U.S. politicians and officials have been protesting in past months at the Colombian government's apparent failure to chase the

vears included the Rodriguez

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Labour to get 55% support with Blair

LONDON (AFP) — Support for Britain's opposition Labour Party would soar to 55 per cent if shadow Home Secretary Tony Blair became party leader, according to a poll in Friday's edition of the Times. Labour already enjoys a 28-point lead over the ruling Conservatives - a margin which would give them an overwhelming majority in the House of Commons. And the MORI survey suggests that, even without the prospect of Blair, the runaway favourite candidate in the leadership contest which will be concluded next month, support for Labour has increased considerably over the past month. Meanwhile, backing for the Tories, a respect and we will a larger service and we will a larger service Major Grant Service Service Major Grant Service Service Service Major Grant Service Servic who suffered crushing defeats in local and European elections in May and June, has waned. Party ratings in June were Labour 52 per cent compared to 46 per cent in May, Conservatives 24 per cent (27 per cent), Liberal Democrats 20 per cent (23 per cent). But the "Blair factor" would increase I about 1975 increase Labour's rating to 55 per cent, reduce the Tories to 23 per cent and send the Liberal Democrat plunging to 18 per cent, the poll said. MORI interviewed 1,897 adults between June 16 and 20.

and the arrestion of th Leftists bomb EU offices in Athens

ATHENS (R) — A leftist guerrilla group claimed responsibility for a bomb blast at the European Parliament offices in central Athens early Friday, bours before the start of the EU summit on the Greek island of Corfu. An anonymous caller told the Eleftherotypia newspaper that the Revolu-200 ALCOME

100 AL tionary Popular Struggle (ELA) was behind the attack which damaged the EU offices and caused panic in Syntagma Square, one of the most popular tourist spots. Police said remains of a powerful time-bomb were found near the entrance of the building. There were no injuries. ELA has claimed responsibility for several attacks against European interests in recent years.

S. Africa reclaims U.N. assembly seat

UNITED NATIONS (R) — After decades as an international outcast, South Africa has reclaimed its seat in the U.N. General Assembly and was formally welcomed back "to the community of nations." Its return to the 184member body, from which it was suspended in 1974, marked the repeal of the last sanction imposed on South Africa because of its now-defunct policy of apartheid. Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo, accompanied by his U.N. ambassador, Jim Steward, led their delegation back to its long-vacant seats amid loud applause and to a warm welcome from Assembly President Samuel Insually of Guyana. Moments earlier, the Assembly formally endorsed a report from its Credentials Committee recommending acceptance of South Africa's credentials. The consensus resolution welcoming South Africa "back to the community of nations" ducked the question of its unpaid U.N. dues totalling some \$100 million, saying they had accrued "due to conditions beyond its control" and would not affect its voting rights. Under article 19 of the U.N. Charter, a member two years or more in arrears is normally barred from exercising its assembly vote.

N. Zealander charged with killing family

WELLINGTON (R) - New Zealand police charged a 22-year-old man Friday with the murders of both his parents, his brother and two sisters. Police in the southern city of Dunedin said they arrested David Bain and charged him with the five killings. He entered no plea and was remanded in custody until a hearing in two weeks. The bodies of Robin Bain, his wife, Margaret, and their children Arawa, Laniet and Stephen were discovered shot through the head in their home Monday. A shotgun fitted with a silencer was found alongside Robin Bain's body, prompting speculation the 58-year-old had taken his own life after slaughtering his family. Police said they were looking at murder-suicide as a possible scenario. But David Bain's arrest gave a sensational twist to the case. The young man had told police he discovered the bodies after returning from delivering newspapers. It was David who alerted the ambulance service to the deaths in an early morning telephone call. Police said he was so distressed that he could not let them into the house and they had to break in. He was later treated for shock.

Mandela names new deputy defence minister

PRETORIA (R) - President Nelson Mandela Friday announced the appointment of Ronald Kasrils, former head of military intelligence for the ANC and a member of the Communist Party politburo, as Sonth Africa's deputy defence minister. He will serve under Defence Minister Joe-Modise, former chief of the African National Congress military wing, Umkhonto Wesizwa (MK). An official statement said Mr. Modise had requested additional senior personnel to help run the Defence Ministry during the integration of former liberation movement guerrillas and members of now-defunct black homeland armies into the regular South African National Defence Force. Mr. Kasrils, 55, joined the South African Communist Party in 1961 and is a member of its pobtburo. He left South Africa for exile in October 1963 and underwent military training in the former Soviet Union in 1964. He became the ANC's head of military intelligence in 1983.

UNITA welcomes Mandela's involvement

LUSAKA (AFP) - Angola's rebel UNITA movement Friday welcomed South African President Nelson Mandela's agreement to mediate in the country's civil war. UNITA spokesman Jorge Valentim told journalists in the Zambian capital, where Angolan government and rehel delegations have been locked in peace talks for nearly eight months, that UNITA had received the news with 'joy. "We hope Mr. Mandela will assume a new and original mitiative with individual imagination in this process, and he should approach the Angolan situation with realism," said Mr. Valentim. He said as soon as an invitation was extended, UNITA would be ready to give the South African leader its point of view about the Angolan crisis and "explain to him the fundamental difficulties that we are facing here in Lusaka." He said the news of Mandela's readiness to help end Angola's 19-year-old civil war had boosted the morale among the negotiators, which had lately been dampened by an upsurge in fighting inside the country. Mandela agreed to play a mediation role Thursday, after talks with U.N. special representative Alioune Blondion Beye in Cape town. He said he would invite UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) leader Jonas Savimhi for a meeting in Sonth

Hong Kong youth flogged in Singapore

SINGAPORE (AP) - A Hong Kong youth charged in the same vandalism spree as American Michael Fay was lashed six times Thursday, the government said. Shiu Chi Ho, 17, was among 10 inmates flogged with a rattan cane at Queenstown Prison, a brief statement from the Prisons Department said. "He was examined by a prison doctor after the caning and found to be in satisfactory condition," it added. Shiu originally was sentenced to 12 lashes and eight months behind bars, but this was reduced to six strokes and six months after be appealed for mercy to President Ong Teng Cheong. Shiu was deemed as guilty as Fay but "because Shiu chose to challenge the charges against him, the government believes it right that his punishment should be heavier than Fay's," according to an official statement last week.



A Tutsi woman and her child stands at the Holy Family Church in Kigali among 2,000 other refugees gathered (AFP

Sri Lankan leader dissolves parliament, calls August poll

COLOMBO (AFP) -- President Dingiri Banda Wijetunga dissolved the Sri Lankan parliament Friday and called for snap general elections six mouths ahead of schedule, a presidential aide said.

The dissolution came after six MPs from the main. opposition Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP) said they had joined Mr. Wijetunga's United National Party (UNP) at what an astrologer had declared was an "auspicious

Mr. Wijetunga announced by special gazette that fresh elections to the 225-member Legislative Assembly will be held on August 16, although the balloting was originally

due only by February. The ruling UNP bad 125 seats in the 225-member parbarnent which was elected for a six-year term in February 1989. Mr. Wijetunga's term as president is also due to expire by January.

The SLFP said it welcomed the early general election as an opportunity to defeat Mr. Wijetunga's UNP, which has been in power for 17 straight

"The government will try its best to throttle a free and fair election...But we are sure to win. We know the pulse of the people," SLFF General Secretary Dharmasiri Senanayake told repor-

EU refuses to endorse **Russian efforts in Caucasus**

CORFU, Greece (AFP) - peacekeeping duties, a Russian President Boris Yeltfused endorsement of the European Union (EU) for Russian mediation efforts in Georgia and other regions of the Caucasus, a French official said here Friday.

French presidential spokesman Jean Musitelli said Mr. Yeltsin had expressed disappointment at the refusal during a dinner be attended with EU leaders here Thursday ahead of a two-day EU summit which started Friday.

After the dinner, Mr. Yeltsin said be had also been grilled about Russia's involvement in negotiating a peaceful settlement to the conflict in Bosnia-

Herzegovina. Mr. Musitelli said Russia was seeking recognition of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), as a regional arm of the United Nations which could launch peacekeeping activities under a U.N. mandate.

Currently, the only European organisation able to authorise peacekeeping activities is the pan-European Conference for Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), which also includes the United States and Cana-

Mr. Musitelli quoted French President Francois Mitterrand as telling Mr. Yeltsin that Russia gave the impression of not always welcoming CSCE intervention in the Russian "near-abroad" - other countries of the former Soviet Union.

He also quoted Mr. Yeltsin as saying that Russian influence over Serbia was limited. The EU leaders bad pressed the Russian president to increase pressure on Bosnian Serbs to accept a settlement in the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Mr. Yeltsin said he remained "very involved" in efforts to negotiate an end to the conflict, but warned that Russia's task was complicated by links between Serb leaders and the Russian opposition.

Mr. Musitelli quoted Mr. Yeltsin as telling European Commission President Jacques Delors Friday: "You tortured me for three hours last night, but it was a salutary experience."

Russian troops began deploying Friday in Georgia's hreakaway Republic of Ahkhazia to begin ing to U.N. sources.

spokesman for the Russian

At around 1,30 p.m. (0930 GMT), a column of bightarmoured vehicles and trucks belonging to a Russian paratrooper battalion drove through the main Abkhazian city of Sukhumi, on its way to new headquarters in Gali, in the southeast of the territory.

They were escorted by two Russian helicopter gunships. According to Lieutenant-Colonel Vitaly Gerassimov, spokesman for the peacekeeping force, it will be joined in Gali by one further batallion. He could not confirm the Russian bome base of the paratroopers now on their way go Gali.

Gen. Gerassimov added that two battalions from Russia's Transcaucasus military district arrived Friday from Batumi, Georgia, to take up stations in Zugdidi, on the Georgian side of the front

The Russian troops, officially a peacekeeping force from the Commonwealth of Independent States, will patrol a 24-kilometre security zone on each side of the Inguri River, the natural border between Georgia and Abkhazia.

Georgia lost the autonomous Republic of Abkhazia to separatist forces in beavy fighting last September, forcing a quarter of a million Georgians to flee the terri-

A senior U.N. official said Friday the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) would cooperate with the Russian peacekeepers deployed in Abkhazia.

"Although not mentioned in our mandate, we consider it natural to establish contact with the CIS peacekeeping force, which we have already done," said the Danish Commander of UNOMIG in Sukhumi, Brigadier General Jon Hvidegaard.

There was as yet however no agreement between the Russians (the CIS force is made up entirely of Russian troops) and the U.N. to allow the latter's monitors to observe Russian operations.

Both Georgia and Abkhazia have called for U.N. ehecks on Russian peacekeeping operations. UNOMIG was expected to have its mandate renewed by

the U.N. Security Council at the end of this month with additional observers, accord-

Rwandan rebels blitz Kigali

KIGALI (Agencies) — Rwandan rebels blitzed the government-held centre of Kigali Friday, inflicting dozens of casualties and hitting the Red Cross Hospital and public market with mortar fire.

Far to the west, the French-led "Operation Turquoise" made headway as about 50 soldiers who spent their first night at a Tutsi refugee camp near the town of Cyangugu returned to their base camp in eastern Zaire, Paris military sources

"A bomb just fell on the emergency block," said Phi-tippe Gaillard, chief delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

in the capital.

Mr. Gaillard said dozens of wounded had been brought iuto the bospital in the government-held centre of the capital since the rebel Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) began pounding the area late Thursday.

No Red Cross workers were burt. Medical staff and anybody who could walk seurried for cover in a makeshift bomh shelter after the mortar bomh hit the hospital triage room.

It was not clear if any of the patients, most of them suffering borrific shrapnel and bullet wounds, had been

Witnesses said there were heavy casualties when mortar bombs rained down upon the downtown market where tens of thousands of civilians still lingering in Kigali to buy

The bombardment was the latest in about a week of fierce assaults by rebels trying to fight their way up Mount Kigali, the last piece of high ground controlled by government forces,

Plumes of grey smoke mushroomed into the air almost every minute during

late morning.

Meanwhile, about 4,000 mainly Tutsi civilians turned out in an RPF-organised demonstration in the rebel-held village of Kabuga outside Kigali to protest French intervention.

"Non, non, Mitterrand" chanted the placard-waving marchers — who appeared to be the only residents left in the deserted, bullet-riddled village — as RPF soldiers mingled with them. The RPF vows to fight

French troops if they see them, because they hlame Paris for arming and training government forces, including Hutu death squads.

Pro-government forces are blamed for most of the mass killings of Tutsis and opposition Hutus since President Juvenal Habvarimana was assassinated on April 6.

In Paris, military sources said "Operation Tuquoise" had got under way with 50 scout soldiers overnighting in a camp full of Tutsis near the southwestern town of Cyan-

Mr. Gaillard said the Tutsis, numbering about 7,000, were the only trapped civi-lians from the minority clan left in the vicinity of Cyangu-

"I understand missions resumed this morning," army spokesman said.

"The idea is to continue checking refugee camps and Roman Catholic missions and make a census of all people seeking help."

Brigadier Jean-Clande Lafourcade, the force com-mander, left Paris early Friday to join his troops as they continued their build-up in Zaire.

Some 500 French troops backed by Mirage and Jaguar fighters had arrived by Thursday night at two rear bases in the border area of Zaire. They are due to up to full strength of 2,500 by the

weekend A 50-strong military medical team is arriving Friday. By the weekend, the French are due to be joined by 200 soldiers from Senegal, the only other country so far

firmly to the operation. The government zone is believed to be packed with 5.5 million people, mostly Hutus fleeing the RPF advance. Aid workers estimate 500.000 Rwandans have been killed, 500,000 are in the two-thirds of Rwanda controlled by the RPF and about

to have committed troops

UNAMIR military spokes-man Major Jean-Guy Plante said the beleaguered 400strong mission had estab-lished radio contact with French forces for the first time late Thursday.

a million have fled the bor-

RPF officials in neighbouring Uganda said RPF military chief Major-General Pani Kagame had deliberately cut contact with UNAMIR chief Major-General Romeo Dal-

"There will be no contact with him (Dallaire) by the General (Kagame) until the leadership decides what form of relationship there will be with the U.N.," an RPF offical told Renters.

The official hinted the RPF may expel UNAMIR because the world body had associ-

ated itself with the French initiative.

Meanwebile, six members of the Western European Union (WEU) are prepared to provide logistical or humanitarian assistance to the French-led military operation m Rwanda, WEU and diplomatic sources said Friday.

The six are Belgium, Britain, Germany, The Netherlands, Portugal and Spain, the sources added.

Italy meanwhile reiterated an offer to provide troops for the operation under certain conditions, the sources said at the end of a regular meeting of WEU ambassadors on Rwanda. The WEU is the effective defence arm of the European Union.

Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi said Thursday Italy was "prepared to inter-vene" in a bumanitarian mission in Rwanda "under certain conditions," notably agreement from the United Nations, approval by both sides in the Rwandan conflict for such an intervention and a defined strategy for the op-

A diplomat from one of the 10 member states said France had briefly outlined the U.N.-mandated Operation Turquoise to WEU ambassa-

dors. Britain, as well as others, had announced they were ready to offer logistical support, he said.



Kigali Airport to be evacuated from Rwanda by French paratroopers April 11. French reconnaissance units taking part in a two-

File photo of French citizens arriving at the month humanitarian mission, codenamed Operation Turquoise, crossed the border from Goma in Zaire to Rwanda's Gisenyi region (AFP photo)

outlines the main points of a

new draft law which is being

submitted to parliament for

approval. What's more, the

latest version of the decree

has already been amended in

accordance with parliamen-

Opponents of the ultra-

tough campaign planned by

Mr. Yeltsin say it is uncom-

fortably similar to measures

which Soviet dictator Josef

Stalin used to bring in a

three-decade region of ter-

Millions of people perished

in labour camps and prisons

tary criticism," be said.

Top cop: No fireworks in Russia crime crackdown

MOSCOW (R) - President Boris Yeltsin plans to launch his war against the Russian mafia Monday but police and troops will hold back from dramatic public action, a top Interior Ministry official said

First Deputy Minister Mikhail Yegorov was trying to calm fears that Mr. Yeltsin's latest anti-crime decree - which gives law-enforcers carte hlanche to fight the mafia - will bring tanks, paratroops and gunbattles on to the streets of Moscow.

Mr. Yegorov told a news conference that no "demonstrative actions" were planned in the controversial campaign.
"The decree is likely to be

put into effect Monday. All the necessary documents are ready," he said. "This is a serious affair and you should not expect it to be accompanied by any kind of fireworks. Mafia-type crime group

have mushroomed in Russia since the collapse of the Soviet Union, controlling parts of the official economy

and tightening their grip on politics.

Mr. Yegorov, one of the authors of the decree issued last week, said the Russian mafia, well-equipped and organised, had declared war on the state. He said his ministry reg-

istered at least five crimerelated bomh blasts a day. The number of hostagetaking incidents, according to Mr. Yegorov, rose in Moscow alone from 16 in 1993 to 118 in the first six months of this

"All these explosions and shootouts show that organised crime is claiming power in different regions," he said. Mr. Yegorov said Russian organised crime was actively establishing links with sister

organisations abroad.
"We know that at least 300 organised criminal groups work in cooperation with foreign criminal structures."

work in the United States, six in Italy." Mr. Yeltsin's decree gives

police the right to detain peo-

colonel-general and senior

military adviser to President

Boris Yeltsin, asserts that

Lenin nuquestionably in-

itiatied the terror that his

successor, Josef Stalin, used

"The leader's main quality

was his enormous, fanatic be-

lief in the Communist uto-

pia," Mr. Volkogonov wrote

in the preface to Lenin. "To

achieve it in practice, Lenin

would not stop at anything:

Terrorism, lies, hostage-

to kill millions.

"Twenty-four such groups

be made. Current law allows only a two-day detention. The decree, which has provoked cries of rage both from bberais and the business com-

ple for up to 30 days, on

suspicion of being connected

with organised crime groups,

before formal charges have to

munity, also allows police to check the bank accounts of virtually anyone they choose. Parliament's lower house, the State Duma, has adopted a resolution calling on Mr. Yeltsin to cancel his decree, which it says violates the constitution and major human

tial decrees. Mr. Yegorov has ignored all the protests.

rights. But the Duma has no

legal rights to block presiden-

"Checks on bank accounts will show, among other things, what financial support certain politicians have, said. "It's only natural that they do not want such information made public." But he made it clear that his ministry was not seeking major confrontation with

parliament.
"In fact, the decree only

after Stalin, temporarily at first, gave more power to investigators. The ary" powers were later repeatedly extended and buman rights whittled away.

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Mr. Yegorov said nothing of the sort could happen in today's Russia.

"No one has cancelled tight control (of police) by courts and the prosecutor's office," he said. "1 do not expect any major violations of human rights."

New book paints Lenin as evil, anti-Russian

Lenin wanted to kill himself in the final months of his life. But bis wife, Stalin and the ruling politburo all refused to provide him with cyanide. In the first major work

MOSCOW (AP) - Vladimir

about Lenin by a Russian author since the Soviet collapse in 1991, Russian historian Dmitry Volkogonov reviles the Soviet founder in what he called the first honest book about him produced in Russia. Mr. Volkogonov, a prom-

taking.' inent Russian historian who Speaking at a news conference Thursday, Mr. Volko-gonov added: "This was also studied thousands of oncesecret files describes Lenin in a man who banished the ina book released Thursday as telligentsia and who realised a evil leader who referred to his countrymen as "fools" one of his slogans — to turn and "idiots." the imperialist war into a civil war which cost 13 million His conclusions echo those

of many Western historians, lives." but would not have been He was referring to the publishable in Russia until Russian civil war that began recently. A decade ago, his views would have been considered treasonous. Lenin was revered as a hero nationwide and his works were official doctrine in Soviet times. War. Mr. Volkogonov, a retired

shortly after the Bolsheviks signed a harsh treaty with Germany and withdrew from World War I, which they dismissed as an imperialist

Mr. Volkogonov's find-

ings, some gleaned from Communist Party documents seized by the government after the failed 1991 coup and since disclosed, include:

- In a 1918 letter to Communist colleagues, Leniu ordered that at least 100 peasants be publicly hanged to retaliate for a local revolt. "This needs to be accomplished in such a way that people will see, tremble, know and scream out." Lenin

- Lenin disdained his countrymen. He referred to them frequently as "fools" and "idiots" in the 3,724 documents he wrote that were kept secret for years by the Communist Party, evidently to protect Lenin's unage.

- Lenin ordered the destruction of more than 70,000 churches.

Mr. Volkogonov, 66, is the Russian co-chairman of the U.S.-Russian Committee on Locating Soldiers Imprisoned or Missing from World War

II and other Wars. He also has written candid

Trotsky, the other key figures in the Bolshevik Revolution. But the former Soviet army propaganda chief, who once considered Lenin a living god, said he found it painful to reassess the Soviet found-

Mr. Volkogonov said he frequently receives insulting or threatening phone calls, and he estimated tens of millions of people remain loyal to Lenin.

"Lenin's fortress was the last to fall in my soul," said the stocky, balding historian.

"It is hard to doubt that Lenin was seeking happiness on earth, happiness for the people, or rather those he called proletarians. But he thought it was perfectly normal to build this 'happiness' on blood, violence and lack of freedom," Mr. Volkogonov wrote.

He amplified his thoughts at the news conference: "It was precisely this man, Lenin, who left the deepest scar on the forehead of Russian history."

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Italy overcome loss of Baggio, Baresi, Pagliuce to defeat Norway 1-0

N.J. (AP) — Italy overcame the loss of its offensive and defensive stars, its starting goalkeeper and a one-man disadvantage to beat Norway 1-0. Thursday in the first round of the World Cup.

Dino Baggio's header from 7 metres on Giuseppe Signori's 69th-minute free kick gave Italy three desperately needed points following its opening 1-0 loss to Ireland.

The result left Ireland, Italy and Norway tied atop Group E with three points

The victory not only was a boost to Italy's chances to reach the second round but also the team's confidence. after having to play a man short from the 22nd minute when goalkeeper Gianluca Pagliuca was ejected for a handball ontside the penalty

"Our players have been great," said Sacchi, who ran off the bench when Baggio scored. "Now we must think of-Mexico, because we have many injured players. We must win against Mexico

Italy faces Mexico Tuesday in Washington.

Pagliuca came way off his line to thwart Norwegian midfielder Oyvind Leonhardsen, who had broken in alone against the keeper in the 22nd minute.

Paglinca, an eight-year veteran of Italian firstdivision club Sampdoria and making his 20th appearance for the Italian national team. made a sliding block of Leonhardsen's shot in the penalty arc. But he used his band to block the ball and then knocked down Leonhardsen to bring out the red card from German referce Hellmut Krug.
Italian coach Arrigo Sacchi

removed Roberto Baggio, who has been suffering from an inflamed achilles' tendon, and sent in reserve keeper Luca Marchegiani to replace

Pagince.
"I was really sorry to decide the substitution of oberto Baggio hut needed players who could run a lot and I didn't want to exhaust him in such hard

The one-man advantage appeared to do little for Norway's offence, getting only a few chances in the later

stages of the first half. was very disappointed with the performance of the team." Norwegian coach Egil Olsen said. "We gave the ball away a number of times on our own half, and other times we didn't give the ball away but it ended up being a free

Italy had dominated the play until Pagliuca's expul-sion, getting its best chance in the 14th minute when Nicola Berti sent in a hader off a corner kick that required Norwegian keeper Erik Thorstvedt to make a diving

block on at the right post. Italy was further hampered when sweeper Franco Baresi left the game in the 48th minnte limping with a

placed by Luigi Apolloni, who was making only his second appearance for the

Italy pressed from the second-half kickoff and it finally paid off after Signori was pulled down on the left side outside the penalty area. He bent a cross into the area, where Dino Baggio was able to bead it over a flatfooted Thorstvedt.

"All I can see is that header," Thorsvedt said. "I don't even know who scored. There were an incredible number of free kicks from that area.

"I am incredibly disappointed. This was a unique chance. "We should have at least had a draw. It was almost embarrassing to lose a game like this. So we just have to calm down and look



Italian player Dino Baggio (C) is congratulated by teammates Daniele Massaro (L) and Nicola Berti after he scored ·Italy's goal against Norway to give them a 1-0 victory (AFP

CANADA DAY

In celebration of Canada Day, Canadian citizens in Jordan are invited to attend a picnic which will be held on Friday, July 1st, from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Yaiuz area. Activities will include a barbecue, live music and door prizes.

Canadians interested in attending should bring proof of citizenship to the Embassy to obtain free entrance tickets, a map and information sheet. The Embassy will not provide transportation.

Fête du Canada

A l'occasion de la Fête du Canada, les Canadiennes et les Canadiens résidants en Jordanie sont cordialement invités à un pique-nique qui aura lieu vendredi le premier juillet à Yajuz de 17h00 à 20h00. Il y aura pour cette occasion un barbecue, de la musique et des prix. Les Canadiens désirant participer sont priés de se présenter à l'ambassade avéc preuve de citoyenneté pour obtenir un carton d'entrée, un plan et un feuillet de renseignements. L'ambassade ne fournit pas le transport au

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Bolivia, S. Korea tie

FOXBORO, Mass. (AP)—
Bolivia and South Korea
played to a 0-0 draw Thursday in a Group C game,
leaving both teams winless in World Cup finals.
In the 1994 tonrnament's

first scoreless draw, South Korea had two late scoring chances denied and Bolivian left defender Luis Cristaldo was ejected seven minutes from time.

Bolivia mostly had the better of play, but sloppy finishing and South Korea's disciplined defence kept it scoreless. In punishing end-to-end play, South Korea's speedy forwards used counterattacks to try to force mistakes in Bolivia's shaky de-

Bolivia was missing striker Marco Etcheverry, starting a two-game suspension after being sent off for e kick at Lothar Matthaeus in a I-0 opening loss to Germany.

South Korea, in its fourth World Cup finals appearance, retained chances of advancing to the second round despite failing to win its easiest game. The Koreans face Germany in their last first-round game Monday.
Thursday's game left Ger-

many atop the group with four points. Spain and South Korea both have two, Bolivia

Bolivia, which also was at the 1950 tournament, remained scoreless in World Cup finals.

Before a crowd of 56,456 at Foxboro Stadinm, Bolivia threatened in the 18th minute as Cristaldo floated a cross from left that Julio Baldivieso a diving Trucco.

rean goal. The two mainstays players will be missing in the final group game against Spain -Cristaldo with an automatic suspension after being sent off and Baldivieso for collecting his second caution of the tournament in Thursday's

Bolivia's Erwin Sanchez came closest in the first half when he drilled a free kick from the edge of the penalty area at the near goal corner, forcing South Korean keeper and captain Choi In Young into a standout save.

A Bolivian defensive slip

forced keeper Carlos Trucco into an excursion through the penalty area to run down Kim Joo Sung but when the hall went loose. Hwang nailed a shot high and wide.

Hwang Sun Hong shook
off a defender in the 35th

minute to set up a clear straight-ahead shot at the Bolivian goal, but the ball sailed high over the crossbar. A minute later, Trucco nearly sent a ricochet into his own goal when Kim Joo Sung blocked his kick out of the

Seo Jung Won was on target for the Koreans with a 50th-minute low volley off a loose bouncer but Trucco dived to turn it around the near

Hwang could have put it away for South Korea at 81 minutes when he stepped ahead o Mignel Rimba in the penalty area, but his point-blank shot was smothered by



national soccer team cheer prior to the start of with Roger Brogle of Frighal Wednesday bethe World Cup game between the U.S. and fore the start of the World Cup match between Colombia Wednesday at Pasadena's Rose Switzerland and Romania. Switzerland won Bowl. The U.S. beat Colombia 2-1. Below, the match 4-1 (AFP photos) Swiss fan Sven Foister (R) of St. Moritz rings

CHEERING CROWDS: Fans of the U.S. his cowbell in front of the Pontinc Silverdon



Americans discover soccer

DANA POINT, Calif. (AP) - After 78 years of obscurity, soccer in the United States was hot Thursday.

All day long, the tele-

phones kept ringing at the Dana Point Resort. Television stations wanted Tony and Tab, Alexi and Cobi. Wednesday might's 2-1 up-

set of Colombia put U.S. soccer player's names in the news, and possibly ensured the World Cup will be a

Success.

"Maybe 10 years from now talk about they're going to talk about whether the U.S. is going to win the World Cup," goal-keeper Tony Meola said. It might have been the

most important win in the history of U.S. soccer. The United States won a World Cup game for the first time since 1950 and is almost certain to advance past the opening round for the first time since 1930. About 2.7 million homes were tuned in to the ESPN cahle channel that carried the game with English language commentary, and there may be a record U.S. television audi-

Required Qualifications:

5- Age between 25-40

2- Knowledge in marketing and sales.

passports or double nationalities.

3- Willing to travel most of his time.

ence for soccer when the Americans play Romania Sunday in their final-round

"We've seen people on the freeways with their windows painted 'USA 2, Colombia 1,' things we've never seen before," defender Paul Caligiuri said.

For so many years, they'd been regarded as those guys playing that foreign sport. As recently as May 7, a game against Estonia at Cal State-Fullerton drew just 2,158.

But now, it's sort of like

the Olympic ice hockey team in 1980. U.S. sports fans who knew almost nothing about soccer are starting to rally around the flag. It may not be as overwhelming as it was for hockey, hut it's starting to

happen.
"That was inspiring, what they did. The Mike Eruziones, the Jim Craigs, athletes who normally don't get attention," Caligiuri said, recalling two stars of the 1980 Olympic ice hockey team. "I think that's happening for ourselves, too."

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World Cup fever claims 2nd victim

BANGKOK (AFP) — A he said in a farewell note to world Cup-crazy Thai committed suicide after losing a our little daughter. We will 10,000-baht (\$400) bet that the Netherlands would beat Saudi Arabia by at least two

Sayan Jandee, 26, hanged himself after his favourite could only manage a 2-1 win "Goodbye, my darling,"

meet again in another life." Last weekend, a cafe owner in Macau dropped dead from exhaustion after watching the World Cup on television for two nights running, followed by work throughout

the next day without sleep.

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ANNOUNCEMENT ISSUED BY Jordan University of Science & Technology Tender No. (27/94)



Jordan University of Science & Technology has pleasure in inviting Local Consultants and International Consultants in Jointventure with Local Consultants to submit their applications and their technical and financial offers for the Consulting and Supervision of the Construction of the King Abdullah Hospital Supervision of the Construction of the king Abdullah Hospital Project. Application forms can be obtained from the Secretary of tha Cantre Tendaring Committee during working hours (Saturday-Wednesday) starting Saturday June 25, 1994 till Saturday July 9, 1994 at e non-refundable fee of JD100 (One Hundred Jordanian Dinars).

Submission of the documents should be in accordance with the

following conditions: Tender proposals should be submitted by hand to the Chairman of the Central Tendering Committee not later than 12:00 noon, Saturday July 23, 1994.

Each tender shall be eccompanied by tender bond in favour

Each tender shall be eccompanied by tender bond in favour of the Jordan University of Science and Technology drawn fromm or approved by an accredited bank in Jordan in an amount not less than two per cent (2%) of the total tender sum. Such bond shall remain valid for a period of not less than three months from the closing date of the Tender Submission. Tender proposals not abiding by the above-mentioned conditions and the conditions mentioned in the Tender Documents. tions and the conditions mentioned in the Tender Documents

will not be considered.
siman, Tenders Committee, Univ. Secretary General, Dr. H. Dwairy.

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LEATHER HANDBAGS SOAP DOLLS

Argentina aim to exorcise ghost of Cameroon in their Nigeria match

FOXBORO, Massachusetts people mention the match (R) — Argentina's reborn against Colombia I tell them World Cup side look well enough equipped to over-come the Cameroon syndrome when they meet a Nigeria in a Group D match sin Saturday — a clash between the champions of South America and Africa.

But they will need to show the same craft and guile as they did in the 4-0 rout of Greece Tuesday to counter the rapid thursts of Nigeria's pacy attack spearheaded by the tall Rashidi Yekini.

Twice champions Argentina have unhappy memories of their last World Cup clash with an African side when Cameroon upset them 1-0 in the opening match of the 1990 finals in Italy.

Coach Alfio Basile, reminded the Nigeria's forwards are in some ways similar to Colombia's who ran rings round his defence in a 5-0 qualifying rout last year, said Argentina would not al-

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Basile said: "We won't put a man on Yekini. I'm not going to change. Every time that I would play them the same way again.'

But Argentina have made significant improvement since the debacle in Buenos Aires and also shrugged off the unpopular defensive shackles of the 1990 World

Their strikers Gahriel Batistuta, hat-trick scorer against Greece, and Claudio niggia — playing with a painful, bruised toe -- can match, if not better Yekini and fellow striker Finidi George for speed and

Nigeria's Dutch coach Clemens Westerhof said Yekini, who scored in the Africans 3-0 victory over Bulgaria in Dallas Tuesday, should have

"You have not seen the real Super Eagles yet," he

The key for Argentina lies in midfield where Basile will be looking for rising stars Fernando Redondo and Diego Simeone to found a solid base and dictate the

Morocco aim to make up for unlucky defeat

EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey (R) - Morocco. unlucky losers against Belgium in their opening World Cup Group F match, need to beat Saudi Arahia convincingly Saturday to boost their chances of reaching the last

Appearing in their third World Cup finals, Morocco were encouraged by that per-formance against Belgium in which only the heroics of opposition goalkeeper Michel Preud'homme dep-

rived them of deserved point. Their plan is now to take three points from the Sandis and hope that a point against the Dutch in their last match June 29 will be enough to put them into the second round.

"We must play an attack-ing game on Saturday. We must be aggressive," said Rachid Daoudi, the gifted midfielder who had an impressive game against Bel-

The Saudis, in their first finals, can also take a great deal of comfort from their opening game, which ended in a 2-1 defeat by the Nether-

lands. The 500-I ontsiders rocked the former European champions, taking the lead through a goal hy Fuad Anwar Amin, and only a goalkeeping blunder hy the previously excellent Mohammad Al Deayea five minutes from time cost them a point.

WITH OMAR SHARES & TANNAH HIRSCH

Neither vulnerable. South deals. NORTH

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Q 2 4 J 10 4 3 2

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SOUTH SOUTH

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 2 4 Pass
2 : Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Six of •

There is no pastime more boring than a game of bridge played at a pace which would make a snail look like a hot rod. However, that doesn't

mean you shouldn't take time to plan your play. South, declarer at

three no trump, had a case of "flying

fingers" at trick one and paid the

No modern player thinks twice

about opening one no trump oo a talanced hand of 16-18 (or 15-17)

points that contains a weak double-ton. North's two clubs checked for a

GOREN BRIDGE

Moroccan goalkeeper Khalil Azmi was carried on a stretcher in the closing minutes of the match with Bel-

gium hat is expected to be fit. He and Saudi opposite number Al Deayea should have a husy afternoon Saturday with a draw of no use to

The main Moroccan strike threat is provided by the experienced Mohammad. Chaouch, who plays his club soccer with Nice in the French second division. Chaouch twice rattled the Belgian crossbar in Orlando

Saudi Arabia look to Majed Abdullah to find the back of the net - the man called the "Desert Pele" is credited with no less than II8 goals in 167 appearances for his country, including friendly matches.

Morocco met Saudi Arabia in the opening phases of the 1984 Olympic soccer tournament in Los Angeles, the counter I-0 but failing to reach the next round.

They fared better in the 1986 World Cup in Mexico, holding Poland and England to draws before beating Portugal 3-1 to reach the second round where they went down I-0 to eventual runners-up West Germany.

That run remains the bestever showing by an Arab nation at the World Cup.

trump game.

West led a low spade and declarer seized the opportuity to finesse the ten. The operation was successful, but the patient died! The teo lost to East's king and, since it was obvious to the continuous and the ten and ten a

a spade continuation was futile, the defender shifted to the queen of hearts and persevered with that suit when declarer ducked.

After the ace of hearts was forced

out and declarer could come to no more than eight tricks without a trick in diamonds. East took the ace of diamonds at the first opportunity and cashed two more heart tricks

for down two.

Had declarer taken a few moments thought before playing to the first trick the futility of the spade finesse would have been apparent. Spades is not the danger suit—

hearts poses a far graver threat!

To prevent the actual debacle, de-

clarer should have risen with the ace of spades at trick one, then forced out the ace of diamonds. That would establish nine tricks for declarer and

the defenders would have no way to

collect more than two spaces, re-gardless of how the suit was distributed.

WorldCupUSA

Today's matches Group F: Belgium vs The Netherlands in Orlando at

19:30 Amman time.

Group F: Saudi Arabia vs. Morocco in New York at 19:30 Amman time. Group D: Argentina vs. Nigeria in Boston at 23:00

Redondo, who will be playing his club football for Real Madrid next season, said: "Argentina have more options in attack."

Nigeria snatched the initiative from Bulgaria after the Europeans had failed to capitalise on a dominant start.

Westerbof did not feel the need to man-mark Bulgaria's Barcelona star Hristo Stoichkov, who he did not consider much of a danger on the Argentina's captain Diego Maradona, at 33, still unmatched as a ball player, the same roum.

Hinting that attacking midfielder Augustine Okocha of Eintracht Frankfurt might be given the man-to-man task, Westerbof said: "You don't" put a woodpecker on Maradona, you put a star on a

Okocha, who is nursing a minor knee injury, said he was not sure whether he would play, but that if he did "Maradona will also have to mark me. I'll play when I

Belgium, Netherlands vie for Group F supremacy

ORLANDO (R) — Belgium and the Netherlands, given a fright by less-fancied opposition in their opening Group F matches, battle for early assurance of a second round World Cup place Saturday.

Belgium scraped through I-0 against Morocco in Orlando in their first game and the Dutch came from behind to grah a late 2-1 win over Saudi Arabia in

It was a chastening experience for both, particularly Dutch who were caught cold by a 19th minute Saudi strike before Wim Jonk hauled them back with a goal after the interval and substitute Gaston Taument headed the winner three minutes from the end.

"I feel we should thank them for what they did," Dutch striker Dennis Bergkamp said. "They woke us up. We were asleep in that game until the second half and 1 think it has done us some good."

Taument may well get his chance on the right wing in the starting line-up against Belgium in preference to Marc Overmars, the player he replaced in the second half last Monday.

Belgium team chief Paul van Himst envisages a change in his formation to meet the threat he knows he can expect the Dutch to pose down the wings and to shore up. deficiencies exposed by the lively Moroccans in midfield. Central defender Philippe

Albert, who missed the Morocco match because of suspension, looks sure to return and - for this clash at least — the attack will almost certainly be reduced from

three strikers to two. Luc Nilis is likely to stand down, leaving Sunday's goalscorer Marc Degryse and Croatian-born Josip Weber, five-goal hero on his Belgian debut against Zambia earlier this month, up front.

Apart from a goalless draw in a 1987 friendly, Belgium and the Netherlands have not met since two World Cup qualifiers in late 1985.

Each won one but the Belgians went through to the 1986 final tournament in Mexico where they reached the semifinals before falling to eventual champions

Dutch coach Dick Advocaat played down the rivalry between the two teams.

"It is not extra motivation to us that it is Belgium and that it is so long since we played them," be said. "You don't need any motivation when you are playing in the World Cup.

They have a different style from us. They play on the counter-attack but we alays play full-out attack." Belgium will hope Weber can exploit any holes in the Dntch defence with his sharp

predatory instinct. Manager van Himst - a fine international marksman in his day - said after the Saudi match that Dutch veteran Ronald Koeman was a very good player but had been a little slow getting

Belgium are the seeded team in the Group but van Himst mischievously told Dutch journalists his side would he the underdogs Saturday.

"Holland are going to play Brazil in the final, as you've all been saying. Of course we're the underdogs," he joked at the team base in Daytona beach Thursday.

McNeil advances; Edberg conqueror out of Wimbledon

Canada, 7-6 (7-4), 6-4, 6-2, and South African Wayne

Ferreira beat Chris Wilkin-

son, one of two Britons still

left in the tournament, 6-2,

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — Lori McNeil, the surprise conqueror of Steffi Graf, reached Wimbledon's fourth round with a solid victory Friday. But another giantkiller, Kenneth Carlsen, fell ill and withdrew a day after npsetting Stefan

McNeil, in her best Wimbledon since 1989, defeated Kristie Boogert of the Netherlands, 6-2, 6-4. Carlsen, a Dane ranked

113th in the world, began vomiting during his third-round match with Jonas Bjorkman of Sweden and withdrew while trailing 6-4, 6-4, 1-0. Carlsen stunned Edberg, a two-time champion, in five sets Thursday. In other matches Friday, No. 10 seed Michael Chang defeated Grant Connell of

McNeil was joined the fourth round by fellow American Lindsay Davenport, the no. 9 seed who turned 18 this month. Playing in only her second Wimhledon, Daven-

port beat Barbara Rittner of Germany, 6-4, 3-6, 6-1. An American playing her 14th Wimbledon,i 32-yearold Pam Shriver, ran out steam in ber match, losing to Argentina's Florencia Labat, , 4-6, 6-2. Labat will play McNeil in the fourth round. Larisa Neiland of Latvia

deceated No. 6 seed Kimiko Date of Japan, 6-3, 6-2, but it was scarely an upset. Neiland has reached the fourth round

here once before, in 1938, while Date is weak on grass, losing by the second round in her four previous Wimble-

No. 14 seed Amanda Costzer of South Africa won 6-0, 6-3 over American Ginger Helgeson. And Kristine Radford of Australia reached her first Grand Slam fourth round the easy way when Argentina's Ines Gorrochategui pulled out of their third-round match because of

The hattle for the women's title has been thrown wide open following the firstround ouster of top seed and defending champion Steffi Graf.

No. 2 seed Arantxa Senchez Vicario was installed at the oddsmakers' favourite.

IOC marks 100th anniversary

PARIS (AP) — The Olympic movement returned to its roots Thursday, celebrating its 100th birthday in the same room where the founding fathers revived the games ex-

actly a century ago.
The International Olympic Committee (IOC), created June 23, 1894, held a formal eeremony in the grand amphitheatre of the Sorbonne to commemorate the centennial anniversary of the birth of the modern games.

The Olympics, begun by the Greeks in 776 B.C. and discontinued in 392 A.D., were brought back to life by

Pierre de Coubertin. The French baron, who first raised the idea to a sceptical audience at the Sorbonne in 1892, saw his dream fulfilled two years later when 79 delegates from 10 countries voted to re-establish the games and form the IOC. The first Olympics of the modern era were held in 1896 in Athens.

"There were many critics who considered his initiatives absurd," IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch said. Thanks to his exceptional intellectual qualities he was able to overcome all obsta-

pic movement today remains true to be Coubertin's ideals. faithful to the conception of its initiator," he said, adding,

Samaranch said the Olym-The Olympism of today is We are convinced that in the future, as in the past,

Olympism will show its force

for conciliation and its

humanism in promoting

peace and international understanding."

Samaranch said the IOC has fought against apartheid in South Africa, worked for observance of an "Olympic truce" during the period of the games, and provided moral and material support to the war-shattered former Olympic host city of

Sarajevo.
"Conscious of its responsiblity, the IOC now plays its aliotted roles in the contemporary world," he said.

Looking ahead to the centennial Olympics of 1996 m Atlanta, Samaranch seid, "We are convinced that the organisers will spare no efforts to ensure that the games of the XXVI Olympiad will be the best in our

NBA champions Houston make it safe for scoring

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Rockets made the NBA safe again for scoring. They vanquished the villainous New York Knicks, who had taken the thrills and the points out of haskethall.

The Knieks, more concerned about success than style, were criticised for their hard-hitting defensive approach that was not pretty. It was simply effective and it best fit their skills. It almost took them to the

top of the NBA. They made it to the seventh game of the finals Wednesday night but lost to the Rockets 90-84 in the lowest scoring seven-game playoff series since the shot clock was introduced in 1954. The Knicks were merely

doing what the other 26 NBA teams try to do, keep the opponent from scoring. It is just that the Knicks did it better than any of those teams for each of the past two seasons.

In their 25 playoff games, they allowed an average of 87.7 points per game. The Rockets managed just 86.1 points, the lowest finals average ever even though they

"The fact that we're unwanted and unloved and the fact that people say we don't deserve to be in the finals because of our style makes us play even harder," Riley said. "But the finals are not about style, they're about

The Rockets weren't so different. They could play physically, too. In the finals, New York had only 21 more rebounds and scored just 86.9 points per game. Houston matched the Knicks intensity down the stretch, with all games being decided in the last three minntes.

"It seemed like it was a hoxing match," Houston coach Rndy Tomjanovich said. "You take a haymaker, you take a couple of steps back and then you come back at them."

"I think we felt very comfortable out there on the floor" in the fourth quarter Wednesday, Houston for-ward Otis Thorpe said. "We knew we had 12 minutes to go and it was just a matter of going out there and executing and just playing some de

There's that word again. Defence. The Knicks allowed fewer

than 95 points in 24 of 25 playoff games. Houston kept its last 13 opponents under

It has become commonplace in the playoffs, when games mean more and players work harder. Both teams scored more than 110 points in only four of this year's 77 playoff games. It happened only twice the year before. Hakeem Olajuwon was

Houston's star, winning the series MVP award after getting 25 points, 10 rebounds and seven assists in game 7. But the Rockets won that game with excellent play. from a guard crops that struggled most of the series and because they took care of the ball, committing a series-low nine turnovers against a pressing, physical defence. Will all teams switch their

emphasis to a slower style, filled with hand-checking and pushing in the paint, now that the Rockets and Knicks have shown it works?

agine Orlando with Shaquille O'Neal and Anfernee Hardaway or Golden State with Chris Webber and Latrell Sprewell going that way.

But when it comes to the finals, defence wins. Chicago beat Phoenix 99-98 to win the title in game 6 last year. In 1992, the Bulls held Portland helow 100 points in four o the six games. In 1991, they gave up more than 100 just once in five games against the Los Angeles Lakers.

In this year's finals, no team scored more than 93 points. The Knicks got 9I in each of their three wins. The biggest margin of victory was nine points.

"I've been around basketball a long time," Houston coach Rndy Tomjanovich said. "I don't remember ever seeing a series that was so

"You go back to those laker-Celtic days, there were hlowonts, there were I5point wins, and this thing was a nip-and-tuck deal that will drive you crazy."



Houston Rockets Otis Thorpe celebrates with the NBA charapionship trophy Wednesday after the finale against the New York Knicks at the Summit in Houston, Texas. The Rockets won the championship win 2 30-35 victory against the Knicks (AFP photo)

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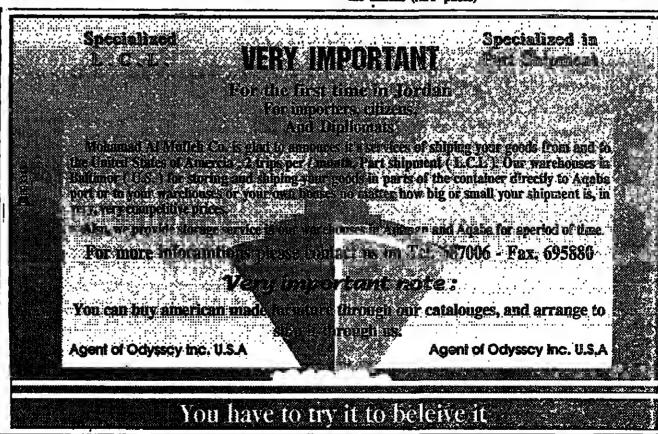
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Iraqi delegation off to France

BAGHDAD (R) — A delegation from Iraq's communications and transport ministry has gone to Paris to look at transport schemes that French firms could build in Iraq, the official Al Thawra newspaper said Friday. French businessmen were in Baghdad this week to discuss resuming their once incrative trade with Iraq once the U.N. Security Council lifts an embargo. France was Iraq's major Western trade partner in the 1980s.

David Steel to retire as MP

LONDON (AFP) - Former Liberal leader Sir David Steel is to retire from Britain's House of Commons at the next general election after 30 years as a parliamentarian, he announced Thursday. "I entered the Commons at the age of 26 as the baby of the House. Now at 56, I harbour no ambitions to stay to become the father of the House," he told his Scottish Borders constituency party at Galashiels. One reason for his decision was to quit when he was young enough to contemplate "doing something equally constructive and challenging with the remaining decades of my working life," he said. Sir David was one of the most prominent "third party" parliamentarians over the past two decades. Liberal leader from 1976 to 1988 he was a leading figure in the historie merger of his party with the former Social Democrats in the early 1980s, and co-founded the Liberal Democrats. He is to relinquish his post as the Liberal Democrat foreign affairs spokesman at the end of this session of parliament.

Plea accord struck in Whitewater trial

LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas (AP) — The Whitewater prosecutor struck a plea bargain that will seal testimony by a man who claims then Governor Bill Clinton pressured him into making a loan to a Clinton business partner. The agreement came four days into a trial peripherally related to the Whitewater investigation of President Clinton and his real estate dealings. The case involves two men accused of conspiring to defraud the Federal Small Business Administration. A third man involved in the scheme, David Hale, was supposed to take the stand, but Whitewar Prosecutor Robert Fiske Jr. feared his testimony could jeopardise the Whitewater probe by tipping off people under investigation.

Japan emperor arrives in Hawaii

HONOLULU, Hawaii (R) - Emperor Akihito arrived in Honolulu Thursday, the last stop of his 16-day whirlwind tour of the United States. On Friday, Mr. Akihito and Empress Michiko were to lay a wreath at the National Cemetery of the Pacific at the Punchbowl overlooking Honolulu before attending mostly cultural events.

Israelis dynamite Lebanese fishing boats

SARAFAND, Lebanon (AFP) — Israeli commandos dynamited two fishing boats in a southern Lebanese port in a dawn attack on Friday, security sources said. Israeli frogmen swam into the tiny Sarafand port, 55 kilometres from Beirut, and attacked the boats belonging to Mohammad Abbas Atoui and Salim Ali Manana, they added. Three days earlier Israeli naval forces patrolling the Lebanese coastline picked up Mr. Atoui and Mr. Manana and questioned them about their boats, a security source told AFP. Seven months ago Mr. Atom lost a boat in a similar Israeli attack.

Turkish troops leave to join U.N. in Bosnia

ANKARA (R) - Turkish infantry left Ankara on Friday U.N. forces in Bosina for what their le would be a mission to keep the peace and "end the "You are leaving to keep the peace and bring humanitarian aid to Bosnia, where a horror has been going President Suleyman Demirel said as nearly 300 hlue-bereted troops prepared to board two Turkish Airlines planes at Ankara airport. The deployment of Turkish troops in Bosnia has angered Serb leaders, who say Turkey's history of conflict with Serbs during Ottoman rule in the Balkans has prejudiced it in favour of Bosnian Muslims and should bar it from peacekeeping in the area. Turkey's age-old rival Greece also opposes the deploy-ment, saying it will raise Balkan tensions, and Bulgaria says it objects in principle to any military involvement by Balkan countries in the Bosnian conflict.

Forum stresses need for Palestinian development

PARIS — The current peace process represented an opportunity to build together a society based on mutual respect, self-interest, fairness and equity, Leila Shaheed, observer for Palestine to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNISCO) said Thursday, the three-day seminar on Palestinian Trade and Investment Needs con-

"Maybe we have not yet reached the full implementation of the peace process on the ground, but there is surely something new that has happened between Israelis and Palestinians", she said. "We can talk to each other in a way that has never been as free, as responsible politically and as challenging.

In a closing statement, Keba Birance Cisse (Senegal), seminar chairman, said that Palestinian economic and social development was essential for the achievement of a just and lasting peace. During the past few months, accords had been reached on building a Palestinian economy and integrating it into a regional and international context. Trade was of determining importance in that process.

For many, the past three days of productive and useful deliberations had represented a learning process, demonstrating the magnitude of the task now facing the Palestinians. The seminar had provided an opportunity to exchange views and offer fresh perspectives on the challenges that lay ahead, he

The seminar participants adopted the preliminary version of their final report. which summarises the views expressed during the nast

three days. It was introduced by Joseph Cassar (Malta), raporteur.

During the seminar participants considered a wide range of issues in the building of a Palestinian economy, including challenges in creating a favourable economic environment, Palestinian bilateral economie relations and the role of international assistance.

Addressing the need to lay foundation for economic development, they discussed the lifting of the current regulatory burden inhibiting development preparing a new Palestinian legal framework and building Palestinian public institutions and a public finance system. The need to promote private enterprise and to rehabilitate physical infrastructure and public utilities was also stressed.

Presentations were also made on Palestinian needs and policy options on investment for development and trade. Participants called for the promotion of domestic investment and for investing in infrastructure and human capital. They also considered future Palestinian trade relations, the opening of new international markets, the role of local chambers of commerce and efforts to promote export generation

and import substitution. The officers of the seminar were Keha Birane Cisse (Senegal), chairman; and Jospeh Cassar (Malta), vicechairman and rapporteur.

The seminar was organised hy the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian Peo-

Hebron inquiry blames Israeli army

TEL AVIV (Agencies) An official inquiry into the Hebron mosque massacre has hlamed the Israeli army for failing to protect Muslims at prayer, the daily Yediot Aharonot said Friday.

Jewish settler Baruch Goldstein killed more than 30 Palestinian worshippers when he opened fire in the Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron on Feb. 25, before being beaten to death by enraged crowd.

The inquiry set up immediately after the massacre said in a report the Israeli military command had failed to take account of the risk of a Jewish attack despite repeated warnings by the internal security services the Shin Beth, the paper said. The inquiry's findings, due to be published Sunday, high-

light the gaps in security at the site, and accuse the police of being lax in their attitude

towards extremist settlers. The report does not recommend any sanctions, but calls for Jews and Muslims to be

separated in the complex and says security measures should be changed following the

The 370-page report con-cludes that Goldstein acted alone and that all the victims died from gunshot wounds, the paper said. Testimony by Palestinian witnesses and some Israeli army guards had suggested

that there was a second gun-

man or that Goldstein bad an

accomplice in the bloodbath. The five-member commission of three judges, a professor and a retired general is not seeking criminal indict-ments, but criticised senior army officers for ignoring intelligence warnings about possible violence by Jewish

extremists against Palesti-

and Haaretz newspapers

The commission also found that law enforcement against Jewish settlers in the occupied territories has been too lax, the dailies said.

up by police, witnesses said.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who also testified before the panel, shouldered some of the blame. As defence minister, Mr. Rabin is directly responsible for the occupied territories. "I admit that I feel uncom-

fortable about the way the

nians, the Yedioth Ahronoth law has been enforced re-

In six weeks of hearings, the commission was told that soldiers were under orders not to open fire on settlers. even if they were shooting at others. Complaints by Mus-lim worshippers about settler provocations at the site, such as throwing acid on prayer carpets, were rarely followed

garding some of the settlers," Mr. Rabin said in remarks published Friday in Yedioth Ahronoth. "Steps that were taken were not sufficient, including by groups that I am in charge of ... all the systems, including the ones that I head, didn't operate as they

should have.' In other findings, the com-mission said soldiers did not fire on worshipers fleeing the massacre site and did not intentionally block the evacnation of wounded.

Palestinian witnesses have said army guards fired intothe crowd of panicked worshipers to keep them at bay, and that soldiers also held up the rescue of wounded.

The supreme court rejected a last-minute appeal by Goldstein's widow, Miriam, to delay publication of the panel's findings until her husband's death was also investigated. The appeal was filed

Thursday and rejected Friday morning, Israel Radio said. The court refused her argument that the inquiry had termed her husbaod a murderer even though it bad

not established the circumstances of her busband's death. She bas maiotained be could have acted "in selfdefence.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said in an interview with the daily Yediot published Friday that he was worried about the "complacent attitude towards the extreme right in the terri-

"Even the courts have not dealt harshly enough with them. We have to revise the whole legal system towards

the Jews.

EU in loggerheads over executive

CORFU (AP) — Stepping up welcomed Mr. Yeltsin and his drive for closer ties with other dignitaries, was under the West, Boris Yeltsin on Friday signed a trade and cooperation agreement with the European Union that the Russian leader said would end the 'economie cold

In a doric-columned chapel overlonking the Ionian Sea, Mr. Yeltsin promised the 12 EU leaders that Russia would be a "loyal, honest, reliable and trustworthy partner."

The EU-Russia accord will lift trade barriers to the sale of Russian goods in Europe, encourage Western invest-ment in Russia's flagging economy and pave the way for negotiations in 1998 on whether to move towards a free trade agreement.

Mr. Yeltsin was the star at the opening session of a twoday summit overshadowed later in the day by a bitter fight over the selection of a new EU chief executive.

Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou, look-ing frail and unsteady as he countries.

other dignitaries, was under pressure to get the EU to agree on a successor to Jacques Delors, whose term expires in January.

Prime ministers Jean-Luc Debaene of Belgium and Rund Lubbers of the Netherlands were the front-runners.

A failure to choose one would underscore the difficulty the group has in working together despite pledges of unity. Its new treaty on European Union calls for a common foreign policy and a

single currency by 1999. Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, who holds an important swing vote. He suggested at a press confer-ence that the third official candidate, the EU's British trade commissioner, Leon Brittan, had dropped out of serious consideration as a compromise choice.

Germany and France are strongly supporting Mr. Dehaene, an avowed proponent

'Israel is delaying Arafat'

week from visiting the King Hussein Bridge — the main crossing point between the West Bank and Jordan near Jericho — had spurred him to advise Mr. Arafat not

"After what I saw and after my experience, I advised him to delay his arrival," Dr. Shaath said.

Dr. Sbaath also comlained of the disarming of his bodyguards while travelling to Jericho from Gaza through Israel this week, saying: "Do you think Arafat would allow Israelis to take his bodyguards' guns when he travels between Gaza and Jericho?"

Finally, Dr. Shaath said, there was the issue of Jeru-

"For instance I was not allowed to pray in Jerusalem, when the holy places should be open to all," he said.

(Continued from page 1)

Palestinian troops came to

blows Friday in the Gaza

Strip while arguing over who should detain a Palestinian

boy accused of throwing

stones at the Israelis, Israel

It was the first reported

scuffle between Israeli and

Palestinian law enforcement

agents since Gaza came under self-rule May 18.

The army spokesman con-

firmed that Israeli troops and

police were stoned by Arah

youths in the northern Gaza

Strip. It said a confrontation

developed with Palestinian

police who demanded the

Israelis hand over an 11-year-

old apprehended on suspi-

Israel Radio said an argu-

ment broke out at the edge of

the Beit Lahiya village and

that an Israeli soldier was

injured when the two sides

exchanged blows. In re-

sponse, an Israeli soldier

The army said that the

Palestinian police took the

boy away for questioning.
Awadalla Zagonl, a

Palestinian policeman, told

the AP that the Israeli officer

who caught the boy started

heating him and that a

Palestinian policeman snatch-

ed him by force from the

officer, who shot about 10

The brawl reportedly en-

ded after a joint Israeli-

Palestinian patrol took all

feuding parties aside for

bullets into the air.

fired his gun into the air.

cion of throwing stones.

radio reported.

Israelis kill Nablus boy

Israel said Dr. Shaath had not coordinated a visit as should have been done. Mr. Rabin, in an interview

published in Israel's Yedioth Ahronoth, said Mr. Arafat had a right to worship in Jerusalem and only technical arrangements stood in the way of an Arafat visit.

Once Mr. Arafat arrives, Israel would weigh a request to visit Jerusalem, particularly to pray at holy sites such as Al Aqsa mosque, Mr. Rabin told Yedioth Ahronoth.

"Arafat as a Muslim is entitled as any Muslim, to visit Jerusalem. If he wants to pray that is his right. There will be a problem about timing and arrangements but in principle the answer is positive," Mr. Rabin said.

The Maariv daily carried similar remarks from a sepa-rate interview with Mr.

questioning.
The Palestinian police let

the boy go home, and the boy

intends to file a complaint

against the Israelis, Sergeant

Palestinian policeman Cap-

tain Najeh Othman of the

team that tries to iron out

difficulties between Israeli

and Palestinian security

forces denied that a Palesti-

nian policeman struck an

Israeli or that the detained

He said the Israelis de-

youth was throwing stones.

tained an 11-year-old boy

who ran away when he saw

them come because he was

selling beverages and

cigarettes without a permit

near Erez junction into

plementing autonomy in

Gaza and the West Bank town of Jericho left it up to

Palestinian police to detain

Arabs suspected of attacks on

Israelis. Bnt Israeli troops

patrolling roads used by Jew-

ish settlers are entitled to

with the general cooperation

between Israeli and Palesti-

nian police since autonomy

On Thursday night Palesti-

nian police in autonomous

Jericho handed over four

murder suspects hiding in the

town to Israeli police. The

men were suspected of killing

a woman in the Ramallah

area, which is still under

The incident contrasted

chase assailants.

started.

The May 4 agreement im-

agoul said.

U.N. biological team in Iraq developing disease-spreading

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — A 32-member team of U.N. inspectors flew to Baghdad Friday to plan long-term monitoring of Iraq's biological weapons programme to ensure that Iraq does not seek to revive it.

The multinational team, drawn from nine countries, was led by Jeff Mohr, an American. Its mission will last until July 8.

Roald Opsahl, Bahrainbased regional chief for the U.N. Special Commission charged with dismantling all Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, said the team will "survey a variety of sites to gather baseline data concerning microbiological capabili-

"Some of the inspected sites may be included into the ongoing monitoring and veri-

fication," he added. Iraq's clandestine biological weapons programme - toxins and deadly microorganisms — was primarily in the research stage when the United Nations moved to destroy Iraq's major military programmes after the 1991 Gulf war. Iraq's noclear, chemical

and ballistic missile programmes were far more advanced. The main biological weapons facility was a top-

security complex at Salman Pak, southeast of Baghdad. Western intelligence agencies said before the 1991 war that the Iraqis were developing strains of cholera, typhus and polmooary aothrax there.

There were also unconfirmed reports that Iraqi scientists, aided by foreign exerts, were trying to develop tnlaraemia, commonly known as "rabbit fever," at Salman Pak.

sion overseeing the destruction of Iraqi weapoos announced Wednesday that all of Iraq's chemical weapons have been destroyed.

The two-year operation, which involved some 100 experts from 23 countries, ful-filled the Security Council's orders to eliminate Iraq's declared chemical weapons stockpiles and did so "expeditiously, at minimal expense, and with no damage to the environment," according

to a U.N. announcement. Items destroyed included more than 480,000 liters of chemical warfare agents, more than 28,000 chemical munitions ranging from rockets to artillery shells to bombs and ballistic missile warheads, and extensive quantities of some 45 different precursor chemicals for the production of chemical warfare

The U.N. Special Commis-

Iran postpones visit to Iraq

TEHRAN (AFP) — Iran postponed a visit to Iraq by a Foreign Ministry delegation in protest at Baghdad's support for an Iranian rebel group accused of a bloody bomb attack on a holy shrine.

the ministry said Friday. A ministry spokesman, qnoted by Tehran Radio said the visit on Saturday had been indefinitely postponed because of the "terrorist act by the (Mujahedeen) and in protest at the Iraqi government's sopport for the group.

The ministry said on Thursday it was decided to put off the visit for a second time after Monday's bomb blast at the shrine of Imam Reza in the northeastern city of Mashhad.

The authorities blamed the main armed opposition group, the Mujabeeden Khalq, for the attack which killed around 25 people and wounded at least 70, according to interior ministry fi-

gures.

said late Thursday 26 had been killed and about 170 wounded.

The Iraq-based Mnjahedeen have strongly denied any involvement in the explo-The delegation was first

due in Baghdad on June 11 to prepare for a visit by Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, but the trip was postponed at the last minote for unspecified reasons.

Mr. Velayati, who would be the first top official to visit Iraq since the 1991 Gulf war. said last week the delegation was to visit by the end of

The visit was to continue discussions on normalising ties five years after the end of the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war. Talks resumed last October after they were broken in the wake of the Gulf war.

Tehran and Baghdad are sharply divided over a number of issues, including the fate of thousands of prisoners of war from both countries. Iran's chief prosecutor said arrested two groups of Iraqbased rebels accused of plan-"terrorist" attacks in

Avatollah Abolfazi Mussavi Tabrizi, quoted by IRNA, said the suspects were mem bers of the Mnjahedeen, who "had been sent from Iraq with the aim to carry out sabotage activities."

He did not say how many people were arrested or if they were linked to Monday's bomb explosion in the shrine of Imam Reza.

Deputy interior minister Golam Hussein Bolandian said Thursday 30 suspects bad been arrested immediately after the incident, with many others rounded up later in other parts of the

The anthorities have repeatedly blamed the Mnjahedeen for cross-border attacks and bombing incidents inside the country, including Monday's explosion.

The rebel group has strongly denied any involve-

Arab defence treaty and its membership in the Arab League under an Egyptian At a late state, the King said, "our Egyptian brethren opted to follow the path of

peace and were the leaders in 1967. Later on, our Palestinian brothers decided to shoulder their responsibilities for securing their rights on their national soil. Given this, it was nonsense for Jordan to stay behind or keep waiting until all parties solve their problems.' "Jordan should exist, not

only as an example for the pobtical dimension but also as a model in its democratic approach, its respect for hu-man rights, and political pluralism," he said. " It should remain as a strong rock in the region and all circumstances demand that it continue its search for a just, durable and honourable peace.

On Syria's reaction to the Jardanian Israeli agreement, King Hussein expressed surprise

at the questian.

The King said he did not hear anything from Syrian President Hafez Al Assad at the personal level. "We are always in contact until this latest stage, and I have recently paid a visit to Syria and met with President Assad and discussed all our issues."

On Syrian-Jardanian coordination and Palestinian-Jordanian coordination, King Hussein said coordination in real

"What takes place from time to time and whenever circumstances allow is that we inform each other of the latest information on talks or provide each

relation between the Palestinian and the Jordanian questions has our Palestinian brothers, Syrians

King Hussein said a Jordanian-Syrian meeting at the prime ministers level was planned to achieve some sort of integration in bilateral relations but the meeting was postponed at the request of Syria.

together. Jardan's relations were good with the Palestine Liberation Organisation, King Hussein said, He referred to the Jordanian-Palestinian economic agreement which was fullawed by a Palestinian-Israeli agreement and stressed that there "is a need for a Jordanian-Palestinian-Israeli agreement to rediscuss all

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Children sentenced for killing their father

MISSOULA, Mont. (AP) -

A brother and sister were sent to mental health treatment centres for their part in the murder of their father. who was shot, hacked to pieces and burned in a wood stove. Sarah Butler, 15; her brother Timmy, 14; and their mother, Donna, all confessed to the Jan. 15 murder of Tim Butler at the family's ramshackle cabin, the mother is scheduled to be sentenced in August. The three said Mr. Butler psychologically abused them, and a psychologist said they feared he would kill them. Authorities said Sarah, a cheerleader and honour student, shot ber father as he slept. Her mother stood beside her during the murder. Timmy admitted helping his mother dispose of the body, first by burning it, then by cutting it up with a meat saw and burning the remains in a wood stove, authorities said. District Judge John Henson placed both children in the State Department of Family Services' Custody, He recommended that the two go to the separate treatment centre until their 21st birthdays. Becanse the children were charged as joveniles, the sentences represent the longest hold the state can place on them. Defence lawyers portrayed Mr. Butler as an emotionally abusive father and busband who had become reclusive and mentally unstable during the last six months of his life. During testimony Wednesday at a sentencing hearing, psychologist Sarah Baxter described the children as fearful of their father, although she never referred to any physical vio-lence committed by him. On the day before the murder. Mrs. Butler met with a social worker and was told she and the children could move to a shelter, move in with friends or have Mr. Butler arrested for using marijuana. Mr. Baxter said Mrs. Butler was convinced her hasband would sursue the family, "Their fear was that... Mr. Butler would track them down and kill them," Dr. Baxter testi-

Queen's yacht

LONDON (AP) — Queen Elizabeth II is giving up the sumptuous oceangoing royal yacht Britannia, and will reimburse the taxpayer for her family's personal use of royal aircraft, the government announced Thursday.

Defence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind said the 412-foot (125-metre) yacht Britannia will be decommissioned in 1997. He said any decision to replace the 40-year-old ship would be made in consultation with the queen. No decision has been made about what will become of the Britannia, but the queen hopes a useful purpose for it will be found in Britain, a Buckingham Palace spokesman said.

Last year one of the monarch's financial advisers, Michael Peat, said Britannia would not be replaced. With its crew of 277, the ship costs about £10.3 million (\$16 million) a year to operate, the Defence Ministry said. A £17 million (\$13.5 million) refit would have been required within three years to make the oceangoing yatch safe and seawortby, and that would only have prolonged its life five more years, a ministry spokeswoman said. The queen fully accepts the decision, and it was she who took the initiative to tell the prime minister that the pattero of royal visits had changed over the last 40 years and a royal yacht was no longer necessary, a palace spokesman said. The yatch is regularly used for official meetings and trade conferences, and reached its 1 million-mile mark during the queen's visit to Caribbean nations in February and March. Britannia had a prominent role in D-Day celebrations earlier this month, carrying the queen along the convoy route from England to Normandy. The queen's son, Prince Charles, honeymooned on the ship with his bride Diana — and the two made their first public appearance together on Britannia after their estrangement in December

> فيهيد والمساورة والمساورة Aug. 1

The official agency IRNA Friday authorities have ment in the bombing. King: Jordan wants comprehensive peace

(Continued from page 1)

helping Jordan through its current difficult situation. King Hussein said a joint Jordanian-U.S. committee bas been formed to work out a mechanism for developing

bilateral relations in all fields. On the timing of the Jordanian-Israeli agreement, King Hussein said talks should have started right after signing the agenda in Washington but due to other events and other preoccupations and concerns for other parties in the region the talks were postponed.

However, he added, when time was opportune for commencing discussion of the agenda "we welcomed that and preferred to move the talks' venue to the area, particularly as talks will focus on such important issues as Jordan's sovereignty over its territory, demarcation of boundaries and the full recognition of Jordan's sovereignty, in addition to

On Jordan's stand towards Arab issues, King Hussein said Jordan, since its creation, had been closer to the Palestine question — the question of the people, the

environment.'

other issues of water and

land and rights. "Probably this was our destiny as a family which has the honour of belonging to Jor-dan ever since the Great Arab Revolt," he said. In the

post-1967 era, King Hussein, said, Jordan had stood by and supported its Arab brethren in affirmation of its Arab commitment to the common

nther with the latest develop-ments," the King said.

The King said that the inter-

made il incumbent on Jordan to negotiate. "We, together with and Lebanese, started from the same point in Madrid. We are sceking a comprehensive solu-tion. However, this does not mean that we have abandoned our right to address our own issues or that we assume that Syria should abandon its rights."

"We hope that the meeting will not be postponed for long,

the King said.
The King said that Jordan had so problems with Syria and both countries remained in contact and had gone a long way